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Synology DS212j is an affordable storage solution for your Mac environment, which maximises your iOS devices with five free apps, and offers many features.

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Also available:





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Cloud on
page 72

Apple's CEO takes to the stage at All Things Digital

Apple's CEO Tim Cook took to the stage at All Things Digital to be interviewed by tech journalists Walt Mossberg and Kara Swisher. He had some interesting things to say in an extended interview for the first time since he took up the position of CEO, Cook was asked about everything from products to patent disputes, as well as questions about Steve Jobs and Apple's commitments.

Cook spoke calmly but passionately about his job, explaining how much he loved the role at Apple. He explained that while there are some aspects of Apple's business that he wants other companies to copy, Apple's dedication to environmentally friendly production is something that we saw launched a few weeks ago at the WWDC keynote, hinting at the great products that we saw launched a few weeks ago. He said that as a company Apple was not going to double down on secrecy.

What did I learn from him? We could have been all night, all week, and maybe even a month. I learned that focus is key"

Cook was following in the footsteps of Steve Jobs, who took to the stage at All Things Digital six times to discuss a wide range of topics, including a famous occasion where Apple's CEO sat next to Microsoft's Bill Gates. The interviews offer a fantastic look at Jobs as a man as well as Jobs as a CEO, and the latest interview with Tim Cook offers just as much insight into a relatively unknown man. The Jobs interviews are available now as a free download through iTunes, and highlights from the interview with Tim Cook can be viewed at www.allthingsd.com.



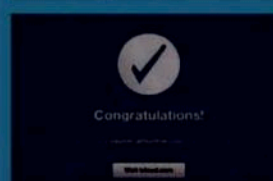
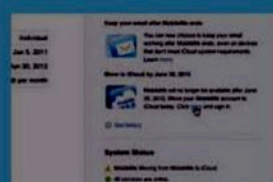
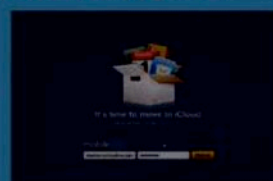
sunsetting a service. In the last year website-authoring application iWeb was given the chop without any warning from Cupertino, provoking some anger from die-hard fans of the program.

Move over from MobileMe

1 Head over to www.icloud.com and use your MobileMe credentials to log in to the website. The front page already hints that it's time to move over to iCloud – so let's go!

2 Once you've logged in, you'll land in your account area where you can see stats like how much space you've used. Click on the link in the announcements sidebar.

3 If all goes well, you'll be given the option to download any files (if you haven't already) and then be presented with a success screen and an option to log in to your iCloud account.



In the Dock

Find out which apps the team can't live without

Top 4 apps:

Google Drive (Free)



We've covered Google Drive in this month's group test, but it's fair to say that it's a definite competitor to the cloud syncing behemoth that is Dropbox. With 5GB of free storage as standard, it's well worth grabbing.

Pixel Fireplace (£1.99/\$2.99)



Okay, this is the least useful app we've ever had, but it certainly looks the part and even possibly makes us feel a little warmer on a chilly day*. It relies on text-based commands and is a lot of fun to play around with. *Probably not.

Photoshop CS6 (£667/\$699)



The latest update to Adobe's flagship image-editing software contains some features that are only best described as pure magic. Accidentally placed your finger over the lens? No worries, watch it disappear in a flash!

Mario (Free)



Remember *Super Mario Bros*? Remember *Portal*? Good – now combine the two. Sounds awesome, right? It is, and it's called Mario. It's available now on multiple platforms for free – just search for Mario online.



Is Xbox SmartGlass coming to the iPad?

At the Electronic Entertainment Expo this year, Microsoft revealed a new feature of its Xbox 360 console called SmartGlass. The system utilises the speech recognition system in Microsoft's Kinect accessory and external screens in the form of smartphones and tablets to provide a multi-functional media experience. During the presentation it was mentioned that the new technology would work with: "all the devices you already own," before suggesting that iPhone and iPad would also be supported. Later a Microsoft spokesperson declined to comment when asked to confirm this.

The system offers AirPlay-like functionality, but with an extra level of features. For example, if you are watching a movie or TV show on your iPad or Windows 8 tablet, you can send that video up to your Xbox with the touch of a button and carry on watching it. So far, so Airplay.

However, once you've done this, the tablet will start to display extra information about the show or movie you are watching. The example given was of maps appearing on the screen during an episode of cult classic *Game of Thrones*, tracking where the story is taking place. Other examples included character biographies and background information displayed on your touchscreen device.

We'd love to see a similar kind of functionality from Apple, and it has all the parts to do it. With an iOS device and Apple TV we could get exactly the same experience. SmartGlass is set to launch towards the end of this year, and to all those millions of Xbox-owning households that also have an iPad, it's something to look forward to.



Stories have circulated that Microsoft's new SmartGlass technology could be incorporated with the iPad

Amazing new space magazine blasts off

Imagine Publishing is proud to announce the launch of *All About Space*, available in print and digital formats from 28 June 2012. *All About Space* will delve into the wonders of cosmic exploration, astronomy and space science every month with some amazing articles, exclusive interviews and a bevy of jaw-dropping images.

The first issue kicks off with a giant feature revealing the exciting missions that will be making headlines in the coming years. Elsewhere you'll find articles on the new race to the Moon, futuristic space planes, nebulae and more. You'll also learn how to buy a telescope and what to look out for in the night sky.

All About Space will be available online at www.imagineshop.co.uk and in all good newsagents. You can also download digital editions from www.greatdigitalmags.com. Visit www.spaceanswers.com today for a sneak preview.

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Discovered on iTunes

Find out what we've unearthed on Apple's massive media store

Books

Steve Jobs

£12.99/\$14.99

With the upcoming release of not one but two films about the life of Apple's iconic CEO, there has never been a better time to read all about his life.

This authorised biography, written by Walter Isaacson, is the only story of Jobs' life based on prolonged interviews with the man himself, as well as those who were closest to him, over a period of several months. Isaacson gained unparalleled access to the great man up until shortly before his death last year, and the result is this incredible book detailing Jobs' childhood, adolescence and time as chief executive of Apple.

The book contains some amazing revelations about the way the man, and the company he formed, worked, as well as more than a few important comments about what we should be expecting from Apple over the next few months and years. It's an incredibly interesting read, and the fuel behind the fire that powers all of those television set rumours that Apple is apparently producing.

In short, if you love Apple, then it's a no-brainer – you



TV and film



The Muppets

£9.99/\$14.99

They're back on the big screen and they've certainly still got it

After a long absence, the Muppets are back on the big screen, with all the old characters and a few great new ones. The film twists the classic Muppets formula by making a new puppet character – Walter, the main protagonist – and slowly introducing classic characters as the story progresses. All the old favourites are here, from the Great Gonzo to Fozzie Bear and, of course, Kermit and Miss Piggy. The group, joined by the excellent Jason Segel and Amy Adams who provide the human leads to the film, are now tasked with saving their Muppet Theatre from demolition by evil oil tycoon Tex Richman (played by Chris Cooper).

The jokes come thick and fast, with a brand of humour that is simply brilliant. The film makes fun of itself regularly, referencing the fact that characters are voicing important plot points and mocking cinematic effects. The huge number of high-profile cameos shows just how much the Muppets are still respected and some truly hilarious songs top off the



Apps

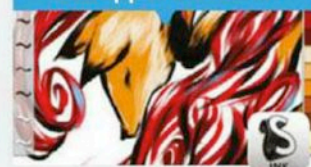
iPhone app of the month



Jetpack Joyride Free

It might look a bit odd, but this game from the creator of Fruit Ninja is one of the most fun and addictive titles currently available. Take control of Barry as he escapes a science lab using a jetpack and several upgrades. Collect coins, high-five scientists, dodge missiles and get as far as you can.

iPad app of the month



SketchBook Ink £1.49/\$1.99

This sketching app was debuted alongside the iPad in March of this year and has finally launched with its Retina display graphics. Sketch and

All the latest... events from the world of Apple

iCrave



Available exclusively at iCrave
or your local Apple Store

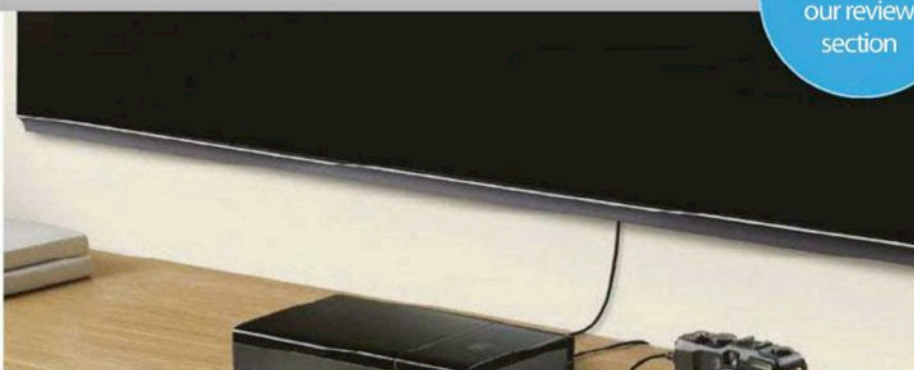
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STM Skinny 3

GoFlex Cinema

• www.seagate.com • £115/\$169 (1TB model)

The GoFlex Cinema offers fantastic features that far eclipse those of the Apple TV, and while it may cost a bit more, it might well be worth the extra pennies. With



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All the latest news, produc

Group Test Cloud services

Google Drive

Free - www.drive.google.com

Cloud storage system has been seen the light of day on the PC, making it the top competitor in the cloud storage market. However, with its 15GB free storage, it's not the most generous. It's also not the most user-friendly, with its interface being a bit clunky. But it's a solid choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

Google Drive is a cloud storage system that allows you to store and access your files from anywhere. It's a great choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

The Google Drive interface is a bit clunky, but it's a solid choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

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★★★★★

iCloud

5GB free - www.apple.com/icloud

Apple's official cloud service can be set up using either an existing Apple ID or a brand new address, instantly enabling you to sync calendars, reminders, emails, photos and documents across your devices. It's a great choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

The iCloud interface is a bit clunky, but it's a solid choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

★★★★★

Google Drive

5GB free - www.drive.google.com

Google Drive is a cloud storage system that allows you to store and access your files from anywhere. It's a great choice for those who need a reliable, secure, and easy-to-use cloud storage solution.

★★★★★

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MacBook Pro

The MacBook Pro, available in 13-, 15- and 17-inch models, sets all-new benchmarks for Mac notebooks. The 15- and 17-inch MacBook Pro feature Intel Core i5 and Core i7 processors, which boost performance up to 50 per cent and reach Turbo Boost speeds up to 3.33GHz. Next-generation NVIDIA graphics bring high performance to everything from 3D games to photos and videos. And the built-in battery lasts up to 10 hours (8 to 9 hours on the 15- and 17-inch models).

13" from £999

15" from £1549

17" from £2099

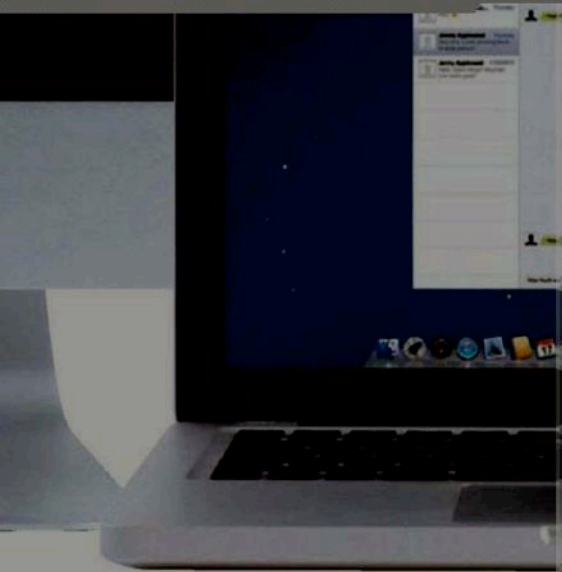
iMac

The iMac features next-generation quad-core processors and the fastest graphics ever in an all-in-one computer. It also brings Thunderbolt I/O technology to the desktop for lightning-fast data transfer. And a new FaceTime HD camera lets you make f

.com

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Feature: Get OSX Mountain Lion



"10.8 is less of a brand new version than an evolution, but a refinement of the previous version"

Get OS X Mountain Lion

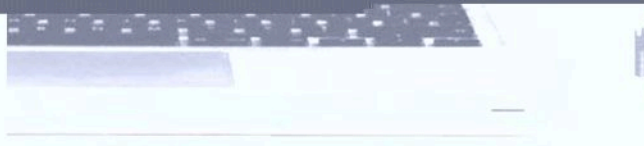
Get the amazing features of the forthcoming Apple OS right now

The summer of 2012 looks set to be an exciting time for Mac users with the imminent launch of Mountain Lion, the latest version of Apple's famous OS X operating system. Hot on the heels of OS X 10.7 Lion, with the developer preview appearing a mere seven months after Lion's launch, 10.8 is less of a brand new version than an evolution, but a refinement of the previous version in a similar way to how 10.6 Snow Leopard was an improved, sleeker and more high-performance version of 10.5 Leopard. Many people see this latest update as a broad step towards the ultimate future merging of OS X with Apple's iOS

by features found in iOS 5-run devices worldwide. The rather uncharacteristically long period between the announcement of the developer preview and the full launch has given third-party software developers plenty of time to scrutinise the technology and come up with viable alternatives to the new features.

This is good news if you just can't wait for the update to officially arrive, as by now there are plenty of apps and services available that come tantalisingly close to, and some of which exceed, the functionality that Mountain Lion offers. Even better, many of these solutions don't require any form of hardware upgrade,

and sync
and



Gatekeeper makes your Mac usage safer by enabling you to set boundaries on the types of apps you can run.

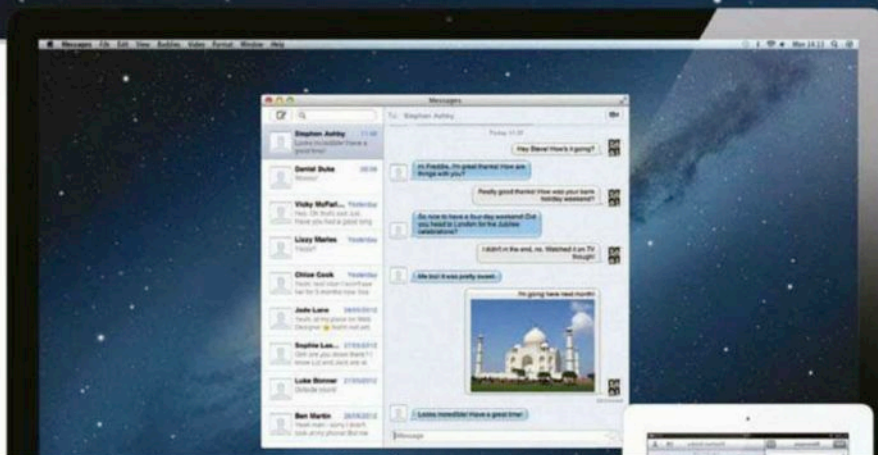
iCloud integration lets you store multiple versions of your documents online and access them from your iOS devices.

Feature: Get OS X Mountain Lion

Messages



The first Mountain Lion feature on our list is Messages, and it's one that can be experienced right now, as it's available to download as a fully-functional beta version from Apple's website (<http://www.apple.com/uk/macosex/mountain-lion/messages-beta>). You'll need to be running OS X 10.7.3 or later. Download Messages Beta and launch the installer by double-clicking the .DMG file. The installation takes up 70MB of disk space, and you'll need to restart your Mac once the installation is



either do this from the menu bar or by hitting the Cmd+'comma' shortcut.

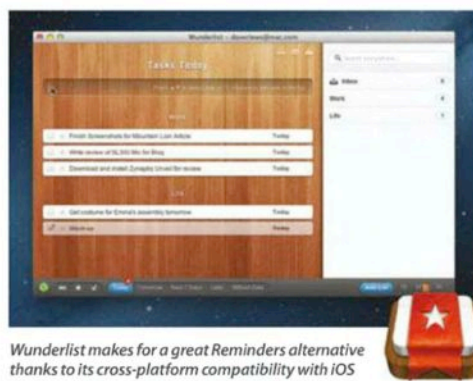
that your relevant email address is listed under the choice of addresses you can be reached at. Add it if not.

device, open the Settings app and under Messages, ensure that the same email address is there as well.

genuine component of the new OS today, and get a glimpse of what all the fuss is about.

for doing this is that Wunderlist is capable of syncing your tasks and lists via cloud sync across multiple devices, in exactly the same way as Reminders will be able to do once the Mountain Lion version comes out this year. You can share lists, add notes to your tasks and choose from twelve different high-resolution background textures.

If you own any non-Apple devices, Wunderlist is also cross-platform, so you can bring your PC and even your Android devices into the fold – there's even an online version so your lists will always be right at your fingertips.



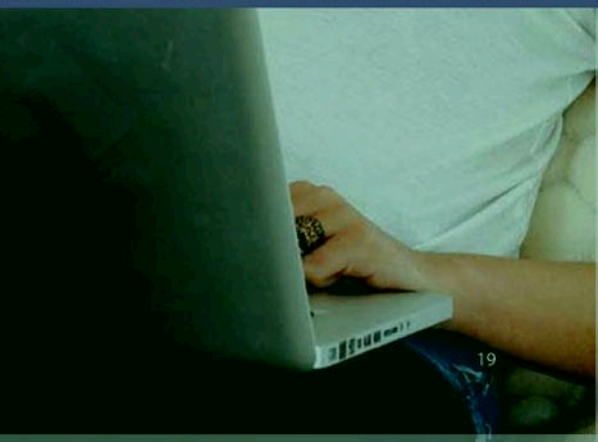
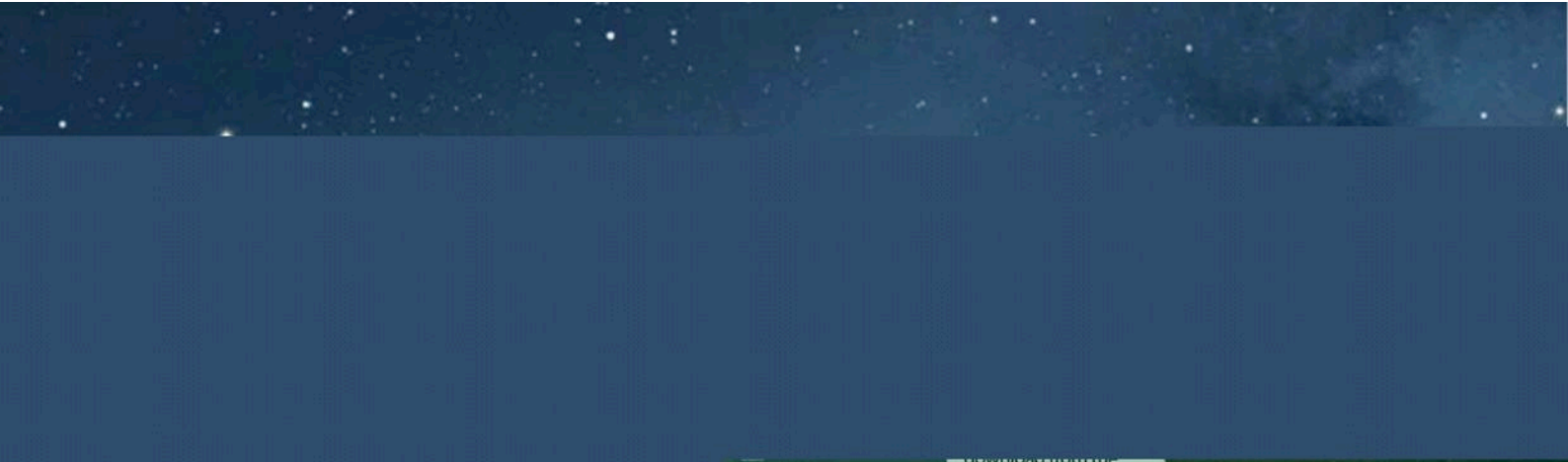
Wunderlist makes for a great Reminders alternative thanks to its cross-platform compatibility with iOS

Reminders



Apple's Reminders task-management app does, of course, already come installed on every new iPad, iPhone and iPod touch, but until Mountain Lion is upon us, Mac users have to go without. To date, the best list apps of this type are 'ten-a-penny' on the Mac App Store though, but for the time being the solution that comes closest to reproducing the Reminders experience is a piece of software called Wunderlist.

Available now for free from the Mac App Store, there is also an iOS version on the App Store, so you can have Wunderlist on all of your devices. The re



19



Download from the
Evernote server and be
ready to view or edit.

"You can enter text,
record audio or take
a snapshot with your
webcam"



Feature: Get OS X Mountain Lion

Sharing Sheets



Bookmarklets are little pieces of JavaScript code that can be saved

as ordinary bookmarks by dragging them straight into the bookmarks bar in your Safari application. Ultimately, they enhance your browsing experience by giving you super-instant access to useful tools and special functionality, and in the case of replicating Mountain Lion's Sharing Sheets feature, they can be configured to share content such as links, images and video via services such as Twitter, Facebook and Flickr at the click of a mouse. Here's a straightforward mini three-step plan to using bookmarklets in OS X Safari.

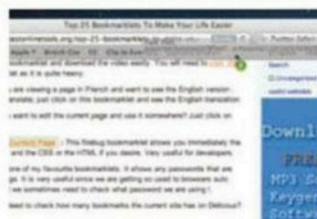
Step-by-step

OS X Set up bookmarklets in OS X Safari



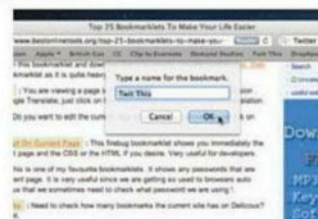
1: Search for bookmarklets

Do a search for a bookmarklet that can perform the particular task you have in mind. We've found one that will tweet the contents of the current webpage.



2: Install

Bookmarklets appear in the form of links. To install one, simply drag it up from the webpage to Safari's Bookmarks bar and release it.



3: Name bookmarklet

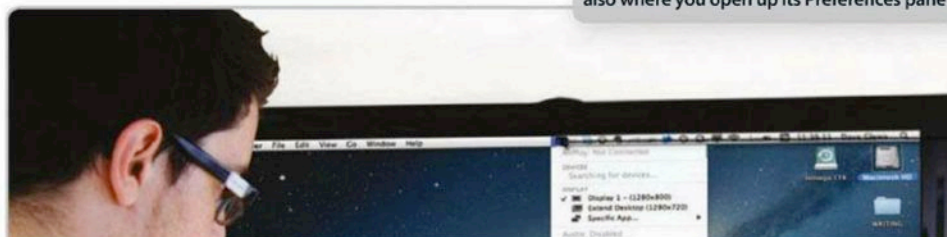
Type the name as you want it to appear. After you hit OK, click the bookmarklet to post a link to the current page on your Twitter feed.

AirPlay mirroring



AirPlay mirroring is set to be an extremely popular and useful addition to the Mac OS when Mountain

Lion debuts. Being able to replicate your Mac's display wirelessly and in real time on a big screen is a feature that has countless uses, such as viewing movies from iTunes and iMovie, demonstrating apps and tech.



On the menu

Once installed, AirParrot is controlled via the menubar. Clicking the icon reveals the main menu, from which source and destination selections can be made. This is also where you open up its Preferences pane

PC-owning friends.

background while you work.

Notification Center

Notification Center is a new feature in OS X Mountain Lion that allows you to see notifications from various apps in a central location. It's a great way to keep track of important information without having to switch between apps. You can customize which apps send notifications to Notification Center, and you can also choose to dismiss notifications automatically or manually. Notification Center is a useful addition to OS X Mountain Lion that will help you stay on top of your notifications.

"Growl's approach differs

MacBook Air

Compatibility cutoff: October 2008

Almost all models of MacBook Air are compatible, with the exception of the original, early 2008 model that started it all off. This doesn't make the grade because of its integrated GMA X3100 graphics chip. Subsequent models of MacBook Air contained the NVIDIA GeForce 9400M or better, and will therefore be compatible.

"Subsequent models of MacBook Air contained the NVIDIA GeForce 9400M or better, and will therefore be compatible"

MacBook

Compatibility cutoff:

January 2009 (white),

October 2008 (aluminium)

All aluminium unibody MacBooks should be supported, but almost all white polycarbonate models will not qualify due to their integrated GMA 950 graphics chips. Post-January 2009 refresh polycarbonate white MacBooks with NVIDIA GeForce 9400M graphics should just be okay.

Mac mini

Compatibility cutoff:

March 2009

The early 2009 model is the oldest compatible Mac mini. Anything released prior to this will have the GMA 950 graphics chip, and will therefore not meet the minimum hardware requirement for Mountain Lion.



Prepare for Mountain Lion



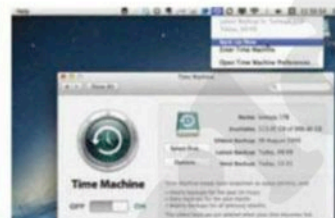
1 Check graphics card

From the Apple Menu, browse to About This Mac>More Info>Overview. Intel GMA 950, GMA X3100 or ATI Radeon X1600 chipsets are not supported.



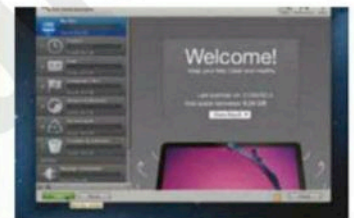
2 Check for 64-bit

Go to About This Mac>More Info>System Report>Software. Your System Software Overview should say Yes next to 64-bit Kernel and Extensions.



3 Back up your files

It's always best to back up the entire contents of your hard drive prior to any OS upgrade. Use Time Machine to ensure you're backed up to an external device.



4 Make room

Make sure that there's at least 20GB of free space on your hard drive before upgrading. Use an app like CleanMyMac to remove large, unwanted items.

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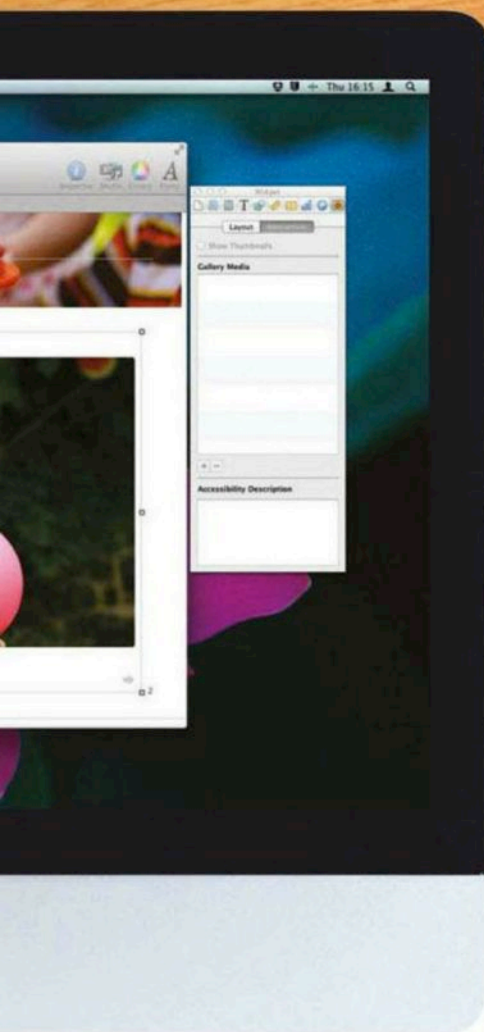
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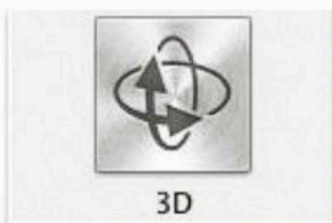


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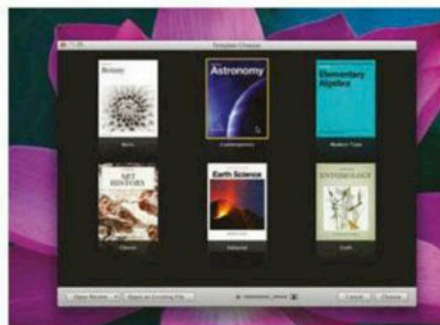


The iBooks Author app gives you the power to create some truly stunning projects



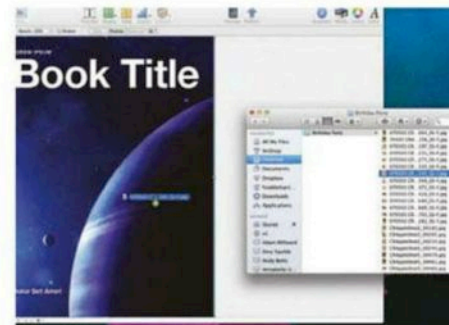
3D
If you want to remember your latest holiday in a far more in-depth way than with a simple set of photos, why not head online and find a 3D model of the landmarks you visited? It makes for a brilliant experience.

Step-by-step iBooks Author Create an interactive scrapbook



1: Start with a theme

When you first load iBooks Author you'll be presented with the Template Chooser. Choose a template from the six provided by default or find more online. We've opted for the image-heavy Contemporary template.



2: Drag your pics

Start off by selecting the Book Title page from the sidebar on the left and drag a new image in to replace the default image. This should be the most memorable from the event you're scrapbooking.



3: Type up text

In any iBooks Author template, text can be edited by clicking on it once, deleting what's already there and typing your own. You can also change typographical elements like font and size in the bar above.



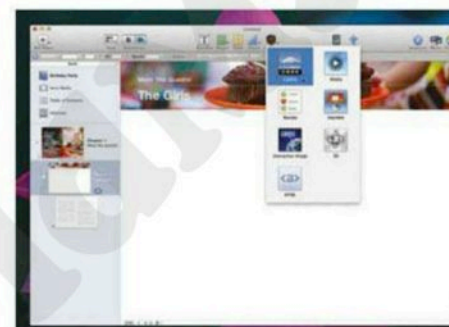
4: Build your book

Click on the Add Pages icon in the top-left of the window, then choose whether to add a new Chapter, Section or Page to your scrapbook. Try to keep the styles and page types varied to boost the reader's engagement.



5: All the details

For each new part of your scrapbook, it's important to fill in the chapter and section headings as these will be reflected in the Table of Contents and updated automatically by iBooks Author.



6: Get interactive

To add interactive elements to your scrapbook, click on the Widgets icon in the top row of icons and select one from the list (see our guide to these across the bottom of the page for more details).

Feature: 5 Creative projects

Step-by-step

iBooks Author Create an interactive scrapbook



Scrapbook design inspiration

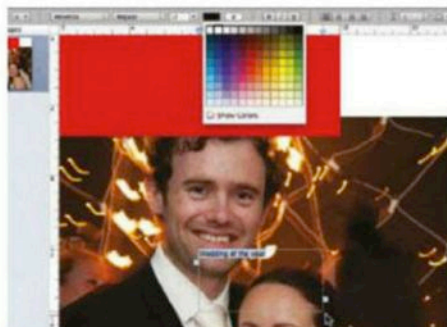
A few expert tips could help you transform your project

Make the most of multimedia
For a truly immersive iBooks experience, be sure



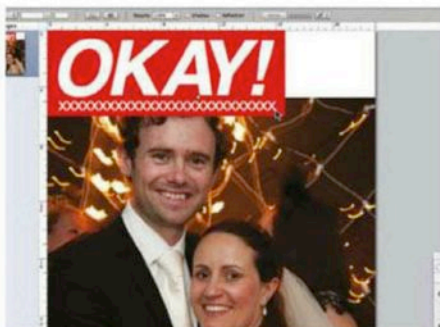
Feature: 5 Creative projects

Step-by-step Pages Make an amazing magazine cover



4: Text and colour

Use the text box shortcut at the top of the menu to create some words. Now type the main headline you are going to use for the magazine. This will relate specifically to the people in the picture.



5: Top text

Repeat this procedure for the name of your magazine and place it on top of the red square you created earlier. Add a strap line underneath too, where you can describe your fictional magazine.



6: Add some punch

Add some extra weight to the text by clicking the shadow button in the Inspector. The shadow will lift the text making it easier to read. Remember the settings you use so they can be applied to other text boxes.



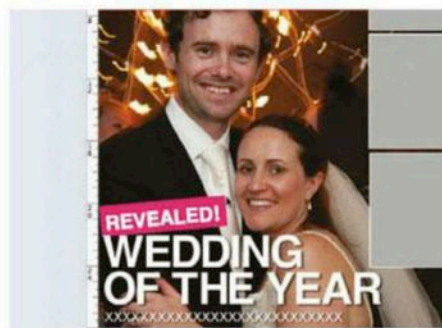
7: Adding the details

The essence of your cover is there, now it's time to add all the extra detail. Start with a box at the top in which you can add cool bullet points or extra headlines that preview what might be inside the rest of your fictional magazine.



8: More pictures

Now add the shapes ready to hold your extra images. Play around with these first as you need them to fit nicely and look uniform. Use copy and paste to create exact copies of boxes you create.



9: Pink flourishes

The next step is to add in your pink boxes with your adjectives. These add to the headlines you use. Hold Cmd when adjusting pink boxes to alter the angle when you drag them around. Jaunty angles add to the interest.



10: Make it real

Adding a barcode adds to the authenticity of your mock up. As long as you aren't publishing the cover for



11: Final photos and words

Now drop your final pictures into your ready-made boxes and then add some more pink boxes and headlines to



12: Final fit and finish

Time to sweep over the document adding shadows, underlines, italicised text and whatever else you think

Working with audio

When we record a video clip we tend to focus more on the visual content of the scene, while taking audio for granted. We shouldn't as it helps add depth to any scene. It's actually quite a challenge to capture good sound. When recording people talking, try and get the camera's mic as close to the subject as you can or the sound levels will be too weak. You can use iMovie's audio controls to boost sound levels, but that can also boost ambient sounds like the subject's voice echoing from the walls or background sounds. Try and avoid touching the camera when recording, as this can add handling noise that will drown out bits of dialog. Be aware that wind may blow on the camera's microphone and soil the sound too. If you're



Working with themes

iMovie has plenty of preset movie themes that enable you to quickly add a certain style to your music video. Here's our guide to some of the best...

Photo Album

Photo Album is great for sharing family activities, thanks to its emphasis on both photos and videos and scrapbook style. Keep 'Automatically add transitions and titles'

at markers provide a much
cker way of enabling you to cut
r clips to the tempo of your track"

syncing

recording a performer singing, then you may find that
o quality is very poor when captured on your camera's
mic. Fortunately you can drop the video footage of
r into iMovie and sync it up with a high-quality digital
the song that they may have recorded in a studio. To
video with the sound you need to drag your footage
Movie's Project window. You can then go to the Music
and set the drop-down menu to Music so that you
ess to your iTunes Library. Drag a music track onto the
o in the project. The imported music track will appear
n bar that runs below your video clip. You can then
music bar around until the new audio syncs with the
ment of your performer. When you're happy you'll
click on the video clip and choose Clip>Mute Clip to
the inferior audio track attached to the video.

cut to the tempo of your music track



Use the left or right arrow keys to offset the start point of your audio clip until it syncs with your subject's lips

and some
fancy effects,
you could
be editing a
Marvel hit!

Filmstrip

Give your music video a cinematic vibe
by framing your footage with old school
analogue filmstrip borders during
transitions. Use this and it won't be long
before your
audience are
transported
back into the
dark depths
of history.

Sports

This is the perfect theme for enhancing
musical montages of sport footage, plus
you can add extra information like scores
and player names. It's a popular choice
for music
videos too,
with the fast-
paced action
matching the
music well.



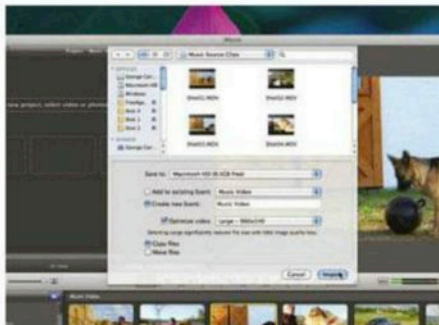
Feature: 5 Creative projects

Step-by-step iMovie Edit your own music video



1 Create New Project

Go to File>New Project. Set Aspect Ratio to Widescreen (16:9) and use a frame rate of 30 fps. Leave Theme set to None at this stage as you can manually add themed titles and transitions later. Click Create.



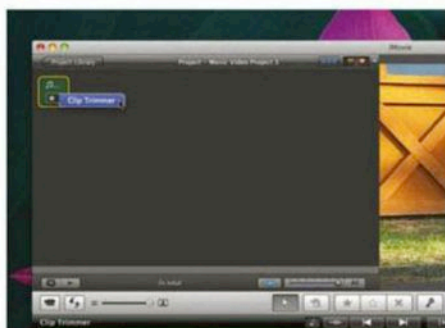
2: Import assets

Go to File>Import>Movies. Browse to the Music Source Clips folder and add them to a New Event. Click Import. The clips are of various lengths, but we can get them to quickly cut to the beat with precision.



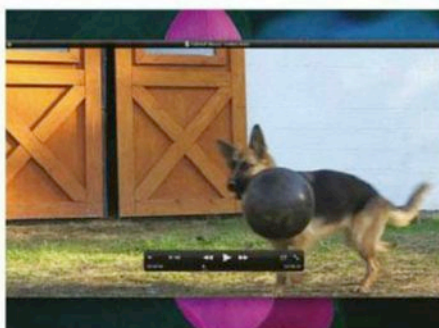
3: Choose a track

Press Cmd+1 to open the Music and Sound Effects browser. Use the drop-down menu to browse to the Jingles folder. Drag the bright and breezy Acoustic Sunrise into the Project window.



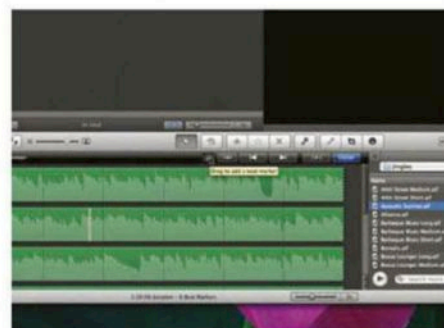
4: Clip Trimmer

Go to View and make sure that Snap to Beats is ticked. In the Project window click on the green music track's gear icon and choose Clip Trimmer. The music track and its



5: Play edited version

Before adding your own beat markers (symbolised by the little musical note icon), play the Edited Music Project.mov from our disc to get a sense of the rhythm we used to cut



6: Add beat markers

Hit the Spacebar to play the music and tap M to add beat markers where you want each clip to cut. We dropped markers in on:

Trim clip

Our source clips are longer than the space between each beat marker, so we can use the Clip Trimmer to make sure that we see the most important bits of each clip while preserving their trimmed duration

Advanced editing tips

A few helpful hints for editing to the beat

Quick cuts

Thanks to the beat markers that you've tapped out in time to the music track's tempo, you can drag



Use gestures to make edits

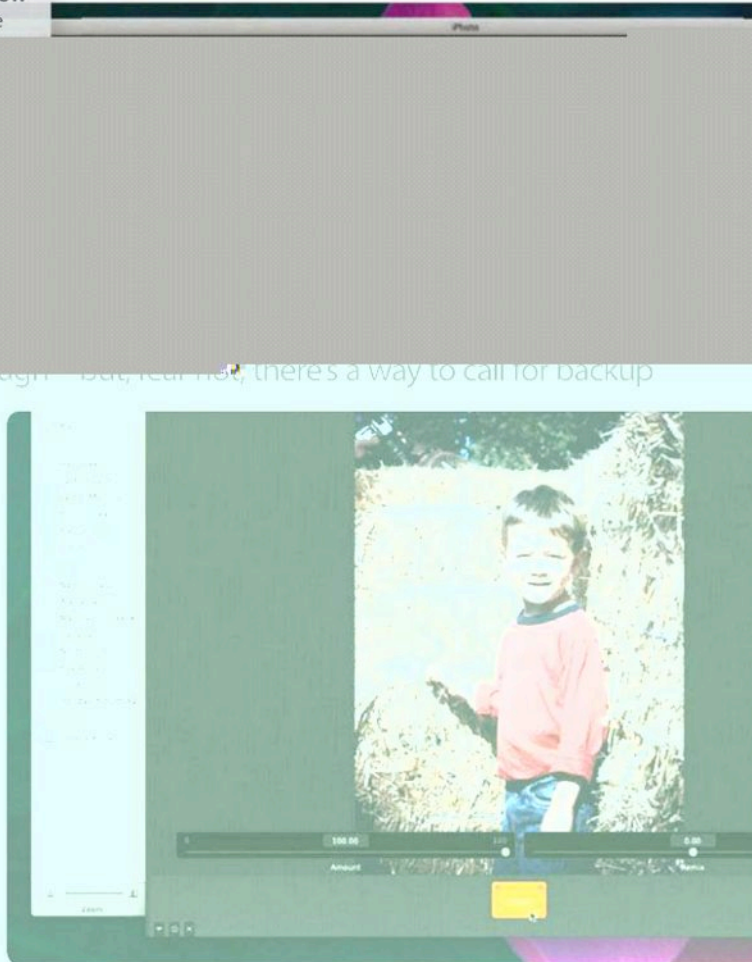
Easy to grasp shortcuts in iPhoto

Move the crop window

Once you are happy with the

Zoom into your shot

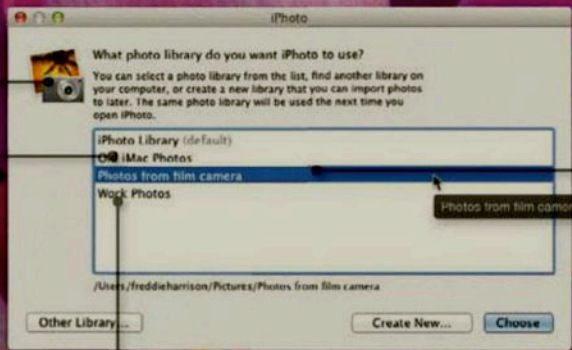
Without the cursor in the crop window it's possible to zoom into your photo to make a more precise adjustment. Simply use two fingers and perform a pinching motion to zoom in or out



to Set up an external editor

Step-by-step iPh

Manage photos across multiple libraries



What photo library do you want iPhoto to use?

You can select a photo library from the list, find another library on your computer, or create a new library that you can import photos to later. The same photo library will be used the next time you open iPhoto.

- iPhoto Library (default)
- Mac Photos
- Photos from film camera
- Work Photos

/Users/freddieharrison/Pictures/Photos from film camera

Other Library... Create New... Choose

Photos from film camera

It is from the Finder path displayed below the list in the library selection dialog

Knowledge base

Tracking a library

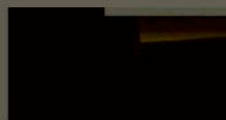
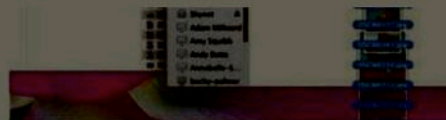
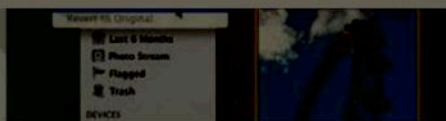
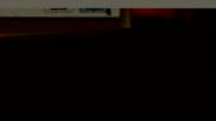
In recent years, iPhoto libraries have become self-contained package files, making it a lot harder to use Finder to delve in and view their contents. It can still be done by right-clicking on a library icon and clicking on Show Package Contents, but it's not advisable. Deleting anything from a library package itself could play havoc with your photos in iPhoto.

Moving Macs

One great use for multiple iPhoto libraries is to manage the images you've moved from an old Mac to a new one. There could be thousands of them so keeping them separate might be a wise move.

It's your job

Having a separate folder for photos you've taken for business purposes can avoid any embarrassing moments when a picture from your birthday party ends up in your business folder.



9: Seal the deal

To finish, relaunch iPhoto and open your old library. Select the photos you've just moved and delete them using Photos>Move to Trash.

7: Drag them out

From the Finder window that appears, drag your photo files into a temporary folder on your Desktop (we created one called New Library Images).

8: Relaunch!

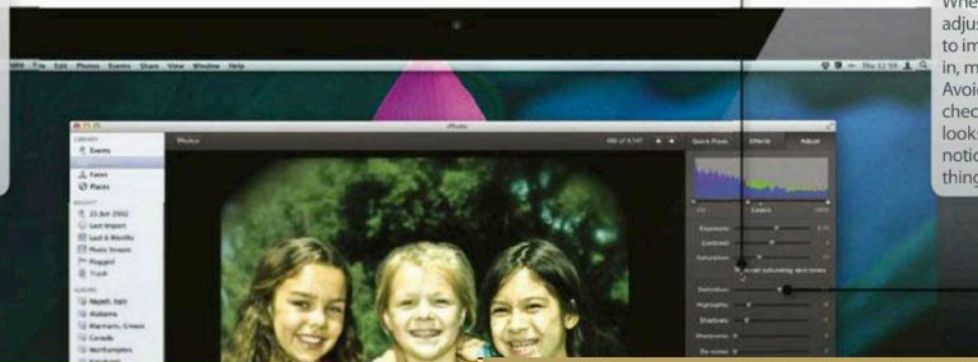
Quit iPhoto and relaunch iPhoto using the Command-Shift key. Select your new iPhoto library from the list that appears. Open your temporary folder using the Command-I shortcut.

Opposites attract

Lomo-style images rely on two key characteristics: overexposure and a desaturation of the image. These might seem like two opposing effects, but when they're combined they create something true to the original style

Leave the skin

When you're making your adjustments, especially to images with people in, make sure you tick the Avoid saturating skin tones checkbox to ensure no one looks funny. You'll soon notice the difference if things look wrong!



ing the graph

fine-tune colour, drag the middle slider with the adjustments graph at the top of the panel until it looks close to your example image.

5: Blur it out

Head into the Effects tab of the Edit pane and apply a fairly strong Edge Blur effect to help recreate the distortions created by the plastic Holog lens.

6: Salt and vignette

One of the key characteristics of any Lomo photo is a soft vignette. Apply this to your image with the lowest level available.

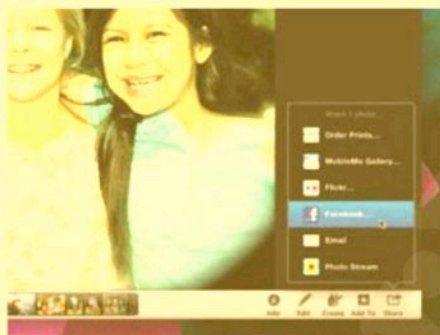
4: Dra

To truly under Edit pane



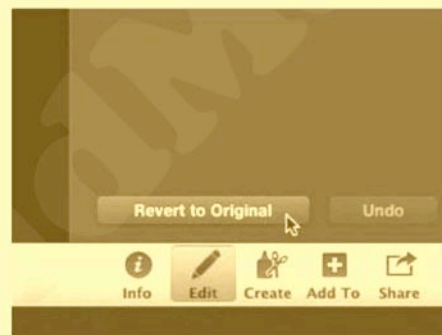
e away

ve the image a softer tone using the Fade effect in the Edit pane. This gives the impression the final photo has been overexposed.



8: Show it off

If you're happy with how your image is looking, why not show off your Lomography-style creation to your friends on Facebook, just click the Share icon.



9: Start over

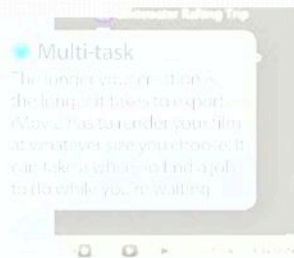
It's easy to overdo this effect, so if things aren't looking great, you can always hit the Revert to Original button to undo your edits and start again.

7: Fad

Finally, effect in that the



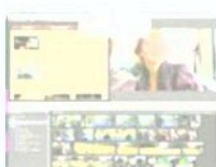
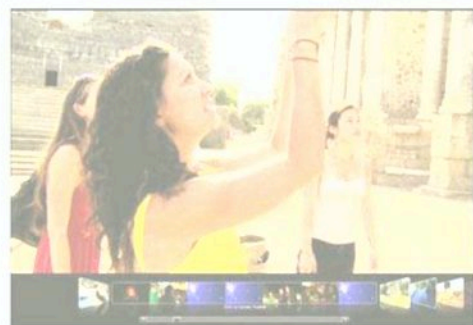
For a more in-depth look at the iMovie interface, check out our [iMovie 101](#) guide. You can also find out how to export your iMovie projects to a different format.



tions

Master iMovie's export options

We reveal the easiest ways to show off your projects



Difficulty:

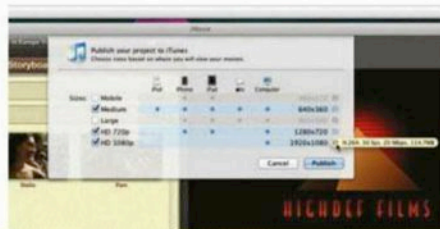
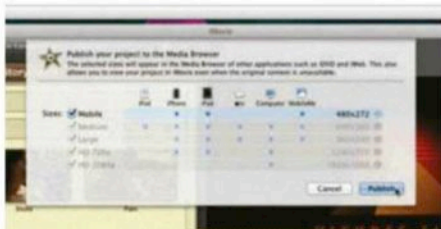
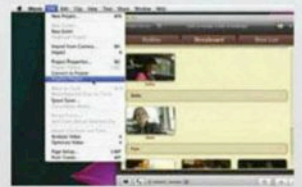
Time needed:

When it comes to creating amazing film projects, iMovie has you covered.



Pro advice iMovie Sharing your movie made easy

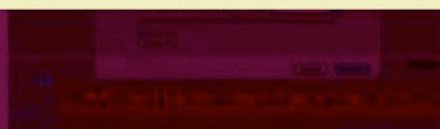
In this short tutorial, we guide you through the key settings and considerations you'll need to keep in mind when exporting your videos from iMovie, with everything from file formats to the size of the final output...

**How to export****1: Finalising**

Finalising your project will render

**it clip**

View>Playhead Info and place the Playhead at 5:24. Right-click and choose Split Clip. Select the first split clip and hit Backspace to delete it.

**1: Create project**

Go to File>New Project. Choose a 30fps Frame Rate with a 16:9 Aspect Ratio. Go to File>Import Movies. Add the clips from our 'Action Sources' folder to a new event.

**2: Re-time clip**

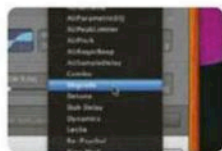
Drag Shot01 and Shot02 into the Project Window. Click on Shot02 and then go to Clip>Slow Motion>25%; this will prolong the dramatic burst of cannon fire.

**3: So**

Choose 5:24. Click on Shot02 and then go to Clip>Slow Motion>25%; this will prolong the dramatic burst of cannon fire.

Master GarageBand's audio effects

We show you how to add some magic to your music using GarageBand's advanced audio tools

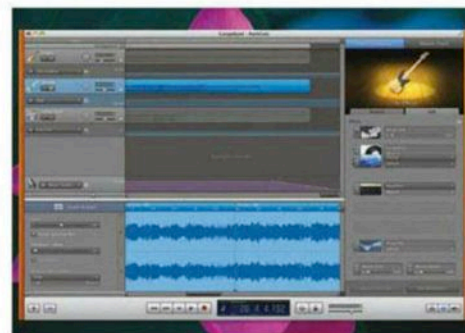


Difficulty: Intermediate
Time needed: 30 minutes

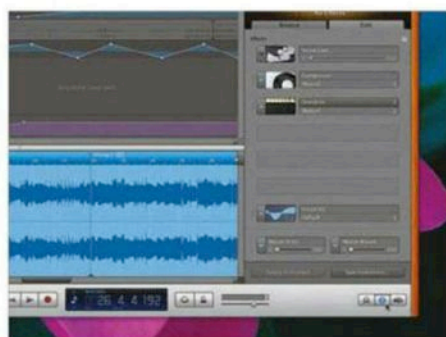


So, you've figured out the basics of GarageBand – you've used software instruments to record some sounds, you've hooked up a USB mic and laid down some vocals – what's next? The fun really doesn't stop there. In fact, once you delve into the world of GarageBand's built-in audio effects, that's when the fun starts.

For starters, effects aren't all about drastically changing the sound of every instrument you record, they're also there to subtly lift certain sounds above the rest of the mix and make for a truly amazing track. What's more, you can even add your own third-party effect plug-ins if you really want to get advanced. It's far easier than you might think and can help make your sounds stand out from every other GarageBand-produced track. If you're not already feeling inspired to get involved with effects, follow our guide, we're pretty sure we can convert you in no time at all!

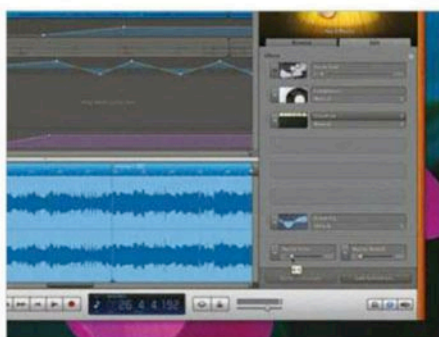


Step-by-step | GarageBand Get to grips with effects



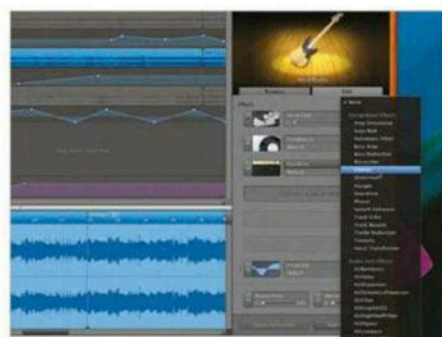
1: In the info

To bring up any track's effects rack, ensure it's selected in the arrangement and click on the Info icon in the bottom-right. Finally, hit the Edit tab.



2: Ditch the defaults

Each track in GarageBand has two default master effects – Echo and Reverb. In most cases you'll want to dial them down or even turn them off completely.



3: In the bank

To add a new effect to your track, click on an empty effect bank in the Info pane and select one from the drop-down list to add it in.



4: Tweak it

To adjust how an effect sounds, click on its icon next to the effect name. This will bring up the effect's customisable settings window.



5: Make it easy

For a quick effects set up, select a preset from the drop-down list in the settings window. GarageBand will do all the hard work for you.



6: Go third-party

GarageBand provides support for third-party Audio Unit effects. These are widely available to download online, with some great options even free.



Using audio effects

GarageBand gives you a host of options

Turn 'em off

To turn effects on and off, simply click on the aqua blue square next to an effect's icon. It's a great way to hear exactly how an effect and its settings shape a sound in your song

Automation

Effects can have certain settings automated so they sound different throughout the course of the song. We've covered automation extensively in previous issues, so check back to see exactly how it all works

Knowledge base

Order your effects

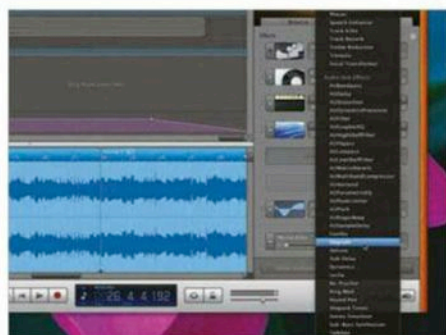
It's very much a rule of thumb, but effects should really go in a certain order to get the best sounds. Start off with overdrive and distortion sounds, then modulation effects (chorus etc), then delay effects (reverb, echo, loopers etc). This should get everything sounding sweet and ensure that your songs sound better than ever before.

Use your EQ

The Visual EQ is the last effect in the chain by default, and for good reason. Use this to sculpt your final sound and cut out any unwanted frequencies such as high-pitched squeals or distorted low-end noise

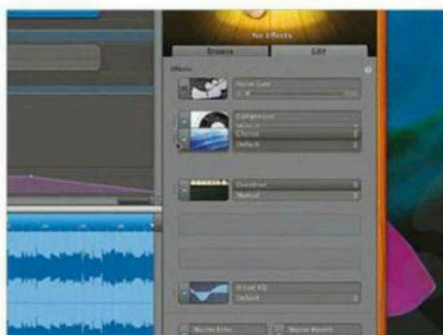
Need more help?

If you're really stuck for what to do with your effects, click on the question mark icon in the top-right corner of the Info pane to bring up GarageBand's help documents for advice



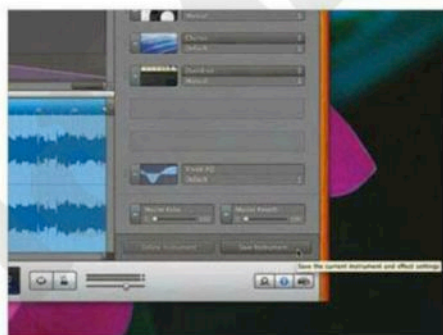
7: Seal the deal

Restart GarageBand to ensure the effect is added. Once you've done this, they should appear under the Audio Unit Effects list in the Info pane.



8: Break the chain

Every effect is ordered in a 'signal chain' which dictates in what order they affect the sounds. To move effects, drag the three dots next to their icons.



9: Save it

If you're happy with your effects signal chain and want to recall everything for a different recording, hit Save Instrument in the bottom-right corner.

Focus points

One of the benefits of RAW images is that you can view its focus points – but for some, this is a novelty feature. The focus point when the image was captured is highlighted in red

Loupe

The Loupe enables you to magnify a particular area of your image - it's adjustable to show more or less of an area. The Loupe works well with RAW images due to their high quality.

Knowledge base

Why RAW?

RAW images are of much higher quality than regular image formats such as JPEG. They get their name because the files are unprocessed and are not ready to be printed or shared. This gives the photographer more control over how the final image will look. The downside to RAW images is their size – they are significantly bigger than standard images.

Lift and Stamp

Like an adjustment you've made? Want to copy the metadata to all images in a project? Use the Lift and Stamp tool to copy adjustments and metadata from one image to another in one click

Brushes and tools

You can access commonly used touch-up tools and brushes using the handy buttons at the bottom of the interface, enabling you to correct red-eye, blemishes, as well as cropping and straightening your image as required

Working with RAW image files

You've captured some RAW images and want to turn them into beautiful photos. Learn to use the tools in Aperture and make your images look like they were captured professionally



Difficulty: Intermediate

Time needed: 25 minutes



As technology advances and becomes cheaper, it often means that amateur photographers have the tools at their disposal to produce the same high-quality images as professional photographers. Most DSLR cameras have the ability to capture images in RAW format. RAW images are lossless photos – they have not been compressed in any way by the time they're imported into your computer. In essence, RAW images are digital negatives. JPEG images are the printed photos you order from Snappy Snaps.

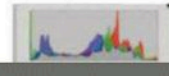
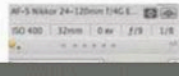
Many photographers choose to shoot and edit in RAW format because it gives them the most control over how their image is captured and processed later on. You can achieve some truly amazing results from RAW images, and we're going to show you how you can do this using Aperture. You've got your all-singing and all-dancing camera, so let's get your photos to do the talking.





Step-by-step

Aperture Working with RAW image files



PNG or TIFF
to Photoshop.

areas of your image where there are inconsistencies.

Choose a location to export your finalised image to.

are the best to use. Use PSD to import

Perfect your pictures in seconds

Fed up with dull or are under exposed photos? Fear not! Quickly fix your photos with Adjustment Presets



Difficulty: Intermediate
Time needed: 15 minutes



Adjustment Presets are a great tool – whether you're a seasoned pro or a complete beginner to Aperture, one of the premium image manipulation suites. You can transform your images from being dull and lifeless into looking like they've been taken with a professional camera. Aperture lets you get creative by using the presets to give your images a fresh look within a couple of clicks.

If you're already putting the 'pro' in professional, you can gain the expertise that enables you to take even more control of your images down to the smallest detail. But that's not all – learn how to make Aperture work for you by using presets to streamline your workflow.

Whatever your motivation, kick back and open up Aperture. Let's transform your images so they can tell their own story.

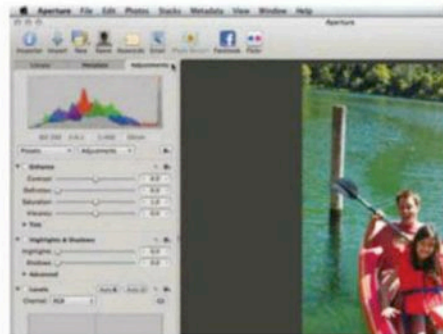


Step-by-step Aperture Create and use Adjustment Presets



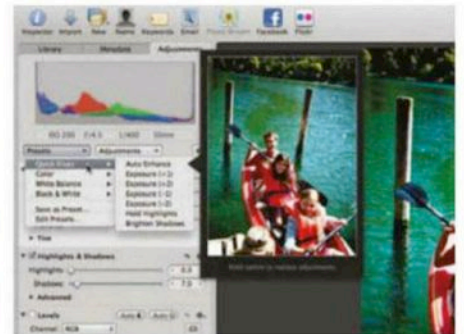
1: Let's get started

We need a photo to adjust. Select a photo from the Photos panel in the left-hand side of the interface. Double-click on the photo to open it fully.



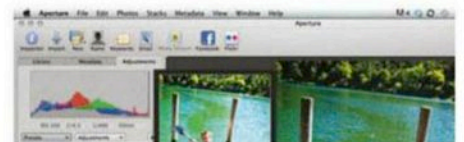
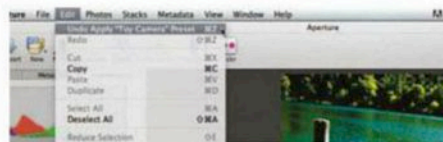
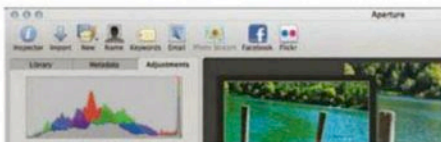
2: Find your way

Your photo will sit in full-size glory in the right-hand viewer window. It's time to start adjusting. Click the Adjustments tab on the left-hand side of the interface.



3: Ready to use

Click on the Presets menu. In the menu there are a variety of ready-made presets – if you hover your mouse over them, they preview in a separate window.



Master Image

Want to quickly compare your original image with the newly adjusted one? It's easy with the Master

Reset adjustments

Sometimes your hand slips and you end up dragging your slider that little bit too far. Don't panic. Click the

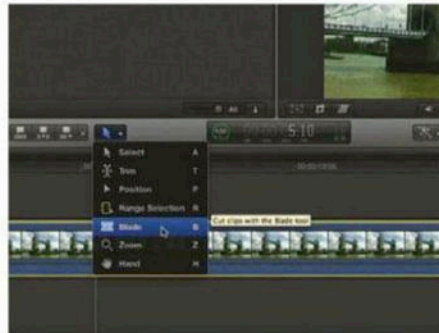


Step-by-step Final Cut Pro X Applying and using video effects



1: Get started

From Final Cut Pro's Project Library, select your project, and open it. If the Project Library isn't in view, select Show Project Library from the Window menu.



2: Chop chop

Splitting your project into clips means you can use multiple effects. Click the pointer icon and select Blade. Click a start and end point on the timeline.



3: Inspector calls

If it's not open already, click the 'I' icon to open the Inspector. This panel offers control over your effects. Nothing will be displayed until you click on a clip.



4: Choose wisely

Applying video effects can change the look and feel of a video instantly, so it's important to get your choices right. Click the film icon to open the Effects Browser.



5: Click and drag

Inside the browser, scroll down to browse the available effects. Click on an effect and drag it on top of the selected video clip in the timeline to apply it.



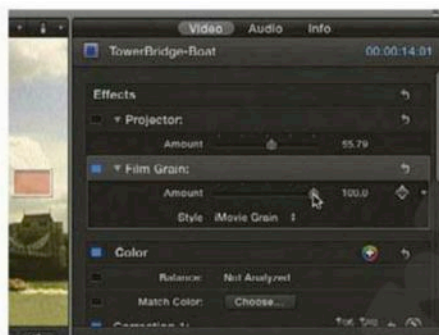
6: Quick preview

Save time and decide quickly. Click on the clip and press the 'I' key – now you can preview the effect on the clip without playing the whole project through.



7: Double up

You can apply more than one effect to a clip for added authenticity. Turn these off and on in the Inspector by clicking the blue box next to the effect.



8: Change the effect

You can make alterations to the effect in the Inspector. Options vary between effects – you generally get more options with colour effects than stylistic effects.



9: Just like magic

With a few clicks, you've transformed your project into a potential blockbuster. Why not show it off by using the Export menu to share it with friends.

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Composition

Make sure you get everything you want into your shot. Plan it out before you hit the shutter button and the results will be fantastic

Steady up

You don't need a tripod to get steady shots. Use whatever is around you to prop your camera up, and if you're taking a shot yourself, sit down and rest your arms on your knees

Lighting your shot

Before you start, take note of the position of the sun. You don't want to be behind your subject – make sure their face is well-lit for best results

Take and share amazing holiday photos

Practical guide to creating and sharing stunning summer holiday snaps

Summer is creeping up on us fast, and it's almost time to dust off the snorkel and sunscreen and get back down to the beach to make the most of the sun. Whether you're staying in the country or heading abroad to catch some rays, holidays with friends and family are something you will never want to forget. Thankfully, there are plenty of photo opportunities when you go on holiday, and with modern smartphones and cameras taking snapshots in the blink of an eye, it has never been easier to record your holiday in digital form. Still, it can be surprisingly easy to come home after a couple of weeks at the beach and find that all of your photos are blurry, poorly lit and generally in need of fixing. And, because it's so easy to take hundreds of photos on a single memory card, editing every single one is incredibly time-

consuming. Instead, you can make a few small changes to your picture-taking process and see a huge difference.

There are some compact alternatives to classic accessories that can be really useful, and depending on how serious you are, there is a range of camera options to choose from.

Of course, the weather isn't always perfect, but we've provided a tutorial that will help you brighten up even the duller images. And when you're done, why not use your pictures as the image on your holiday postcards? With your trusty Mac or iPhone you can create a card that can be posted to friends, or even make a collage to share online.



"Make a few small changes to your picture-taking process and see a huge difference"

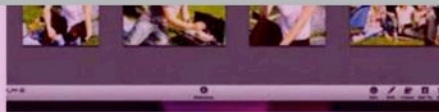


iPhoto

Featured tutorial

u want all
on a bright,
s possible
e to create
Photo now
le to do
e you have

or photos on the same day with duller weather
conditions, you can quickly brighten them all up
without having to alter them bit-by-bit. These settings
can then be tweaked slightly to suit the photo you've
added them to, for natural-looking shots. Read on to
find out how to brighten up photos on your Mac and
make every shot look incredibly summery.



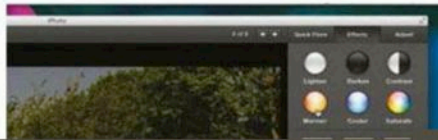
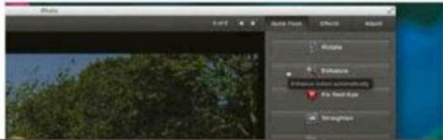
***iPhoto gives you the opportunity to copy and paste
your favourite adjustments – a real time-saver!***

When you go on holiday, you
your images to look like they were taken
sunny day, and sometimes that isn't always
when you're shooting. Instead, it's possible
a similar effect in iPhoto. Of course, with i
on the iPad and iPhone as well, it's possible
this to all your photos on whichever device



Step-by-step iPhoto Adjust your shot's levels

Not all of your photos are going to come out looking perfect on holiday, but if the sun goes in for a while there are a few things you can do to make everything look a little warmer...



5 Tips for better photos



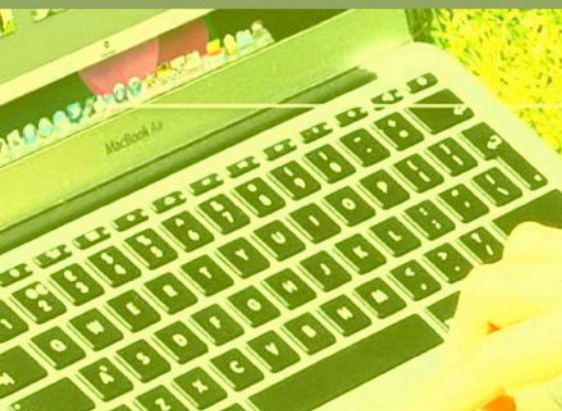
Use the sun

1 Work out the best place for you to stand so that you can use the sun to your benefit. Stand so that the sun is behind or beside you to make the most out of the natural



iPhoto
Featured tutorial

Sharing your photos



1: Card creation

Find an image or selection that you really want to share, and click Create > Choose Card to get started.



2: Flatten it out

Select the Flat option. Click through to find a design and colour that you like.

In Settings you can quickly set one up and connect to it from your MacBook or other devices immediately.

Click through to find a design and colour that you like.

We're excited about: Adobe Creative Cloud

Adobe's Creative Suite takes to the clouds to offer all kinds of fantastic functionality

Requirements:

OS X 10.6.6

Website:

www.adobe.com

Available:

www.adobe.com

Price:

£46.88/\$49.99
(per month)



Photoshop is the pinnacle of image editing software, and along with Adobe's other fantastic creation apps, make up the incredible Creative Suite. Normally, licenses for these apps cost hundreds each, making them a rather hefty investment. Now, though, you can get hold of every one of Adobe's apps, along with a whole range of amazing sharing options and regular updates, for a monthly fee that includes access to the new Creative Cloud.

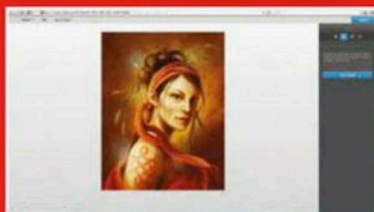
The subscription enables you to use everything from Illustrator to Audition on your Mac, as well as offering some fantastic cloud sharing options. You can share your creations with friends or colleagues, including notes and layers, and open your projects anywhere, on whichever device you have available from a Mac Pro to an iPad.

When your projects are finished, the Creative Cloud also lets you share your finished work with others. Whether you're creating and publishing a website or creating an app for your iPad, you can do it all with the new service. If you use a lot of Adobe apps regularly, this is a fantastic development.

Sharing

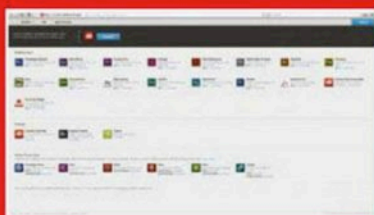
The other great thing about Creative Cloud is the ability to share projects with friends and colleagues. Add comments to each item to share your thoughts on individual layers or files, and let other users to download your work to see what you've done

Fantastic features



1: Comments

You can add comments on your work on the site, but you can also comment on individual layers in your Photoshop projects.



2: App-tastic

Creative Cloud gives you Adobe's apps for just £46.88/\$49.99 a month. The Master Collection costs £476.40/\$525 without the sharing services.

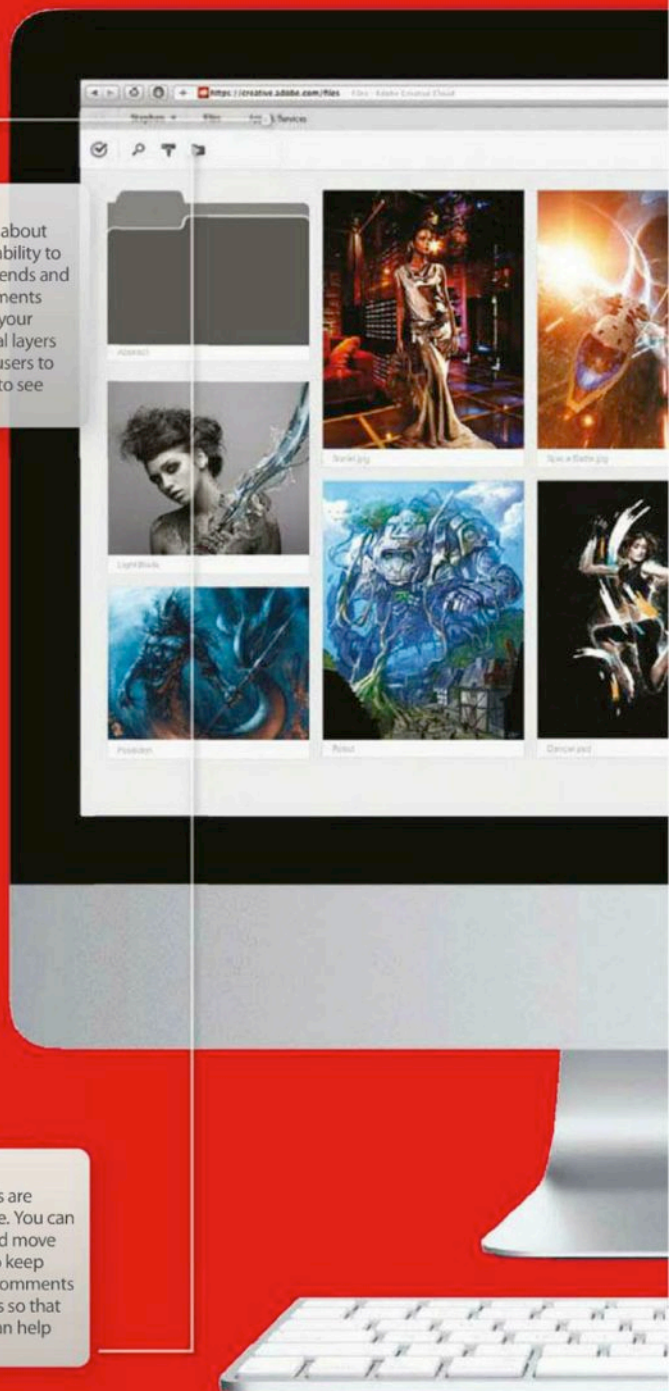


3: Previews

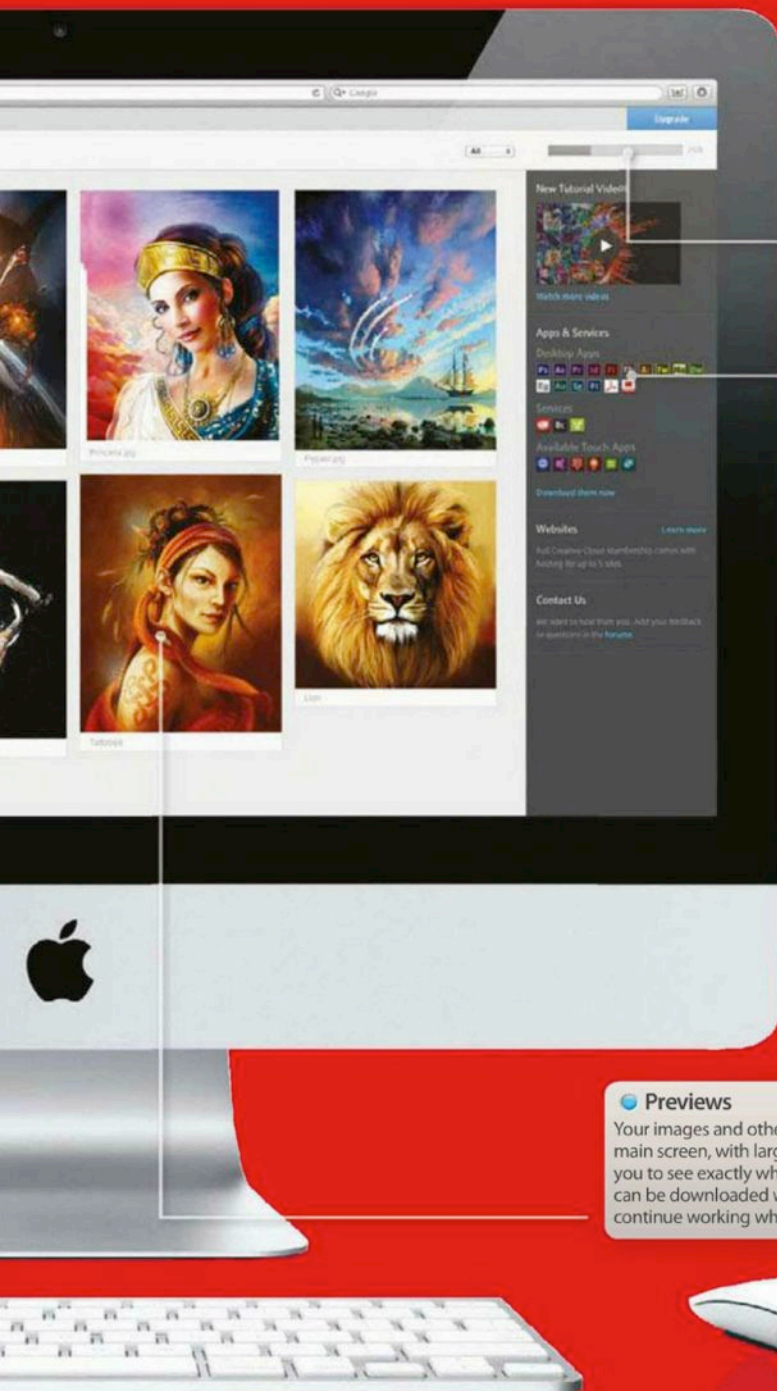
You can get full-screen previews of your projects in the browser, so even if you don't want to download them, they're available.

In its place

The organisation tools are simple and easy to use. You can create new folders and move your files into them to keep everything tidy, add comments and amend file names so that the search function can help you find files fast



"Because everything is integrated, you can download things like colour swatches from within the cloud"



All that space

Up in the top-right you can see a bar showing you how much of the space has been filled. In the trial version you get 2GB, but once you subscribe to the service that's bumped up to a massive 20GB – plenty of space for all your projects

All the apps

One of the best things about Adobe's Creative Cloud is that when you subscribe you'll get access to all of Adobe's apps. You can click the link at the top or on the right to be taken over to a page where you can download whichever ones take your fancy

Previews

Your images and other files are presented in full on the main screen, with large previews of each image allowing you to see exactly what you need to access. Each file can be downloaded with a couple of clicks so you can continue working wherever you are

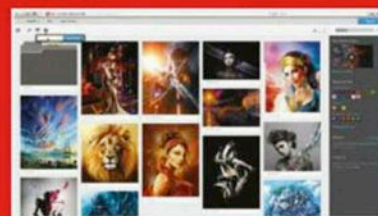
Get organised in Creative Cloud

Use Adobe's cloud service to boost your workflow



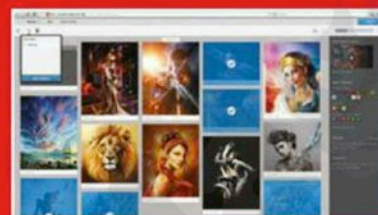
1: Blank canvas

When you first log into your account, it will be a blank canvas. To start adding files, drag them in or hit Upload.



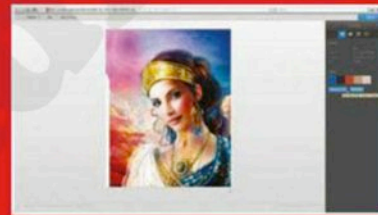
2: Sorting it out

The sorting options make managing files simple. Create new folders using the buttons in the top-left to clean things up.



3: Spring clean

You can tidy up by selecting multiple files to add to a folder. Click the checkbox in the top-left, then choose the images.



4: Integration

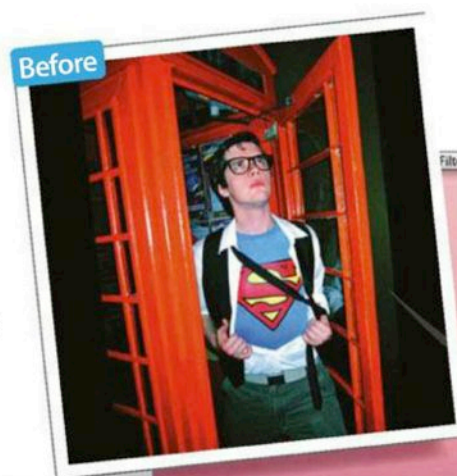
Because everything is integrated, you can download things like colour swatches from within the cloud.

Turn yourself into a superhero in Pixelmator

Create an amazing hand-drawn effect to wow your mates



With so many comic book movies coming out this summer, there has never been a better time to start learning how to add a hand-drawn effect to your images. Pixelmator is an incredibly powerful editing tool that lets you add all kinds of features to your photos using simple tools that are surprisingly easy to learn. This guide will show you how to turn yourself into a superhero in Pixelmator.



1: Important lines

A staple of comic book artistry is the use of lines. Create a new layer and start sketching some lines using your image. Outline the edges, but also mark the important creases in clothes, as well as strong lines elsewhere.



2: Blocked up

Next, add a new layer between the original photo and the lines you've added. Choose a thicker brush and start blocking out areas of single colours. What you want is a base for the highlights and shadows you're about to add.



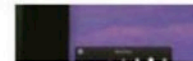
Prepare for your work

Before you get started, there are a few things you need to prepare. Preparing a colour swatch before you start painting will make the creation process smoother later on, and editing the brushes you're going to use will ensure your lines won't change as you progress with your photo editing.



1 To sample a colour, hold down Alt. Your pointer will become a crosshair-style lens, and you can click anywhere to sample the colour.

2 You can keep these colours in the Colour menu for later use. With the colour selected, simply drag it into the bar at the bottom.



3 Next up, edit the brushes in the Brushes menu.



Real highlight



4: Facial recognition




3: A

Execute the perfect meal with The Video Cookbook

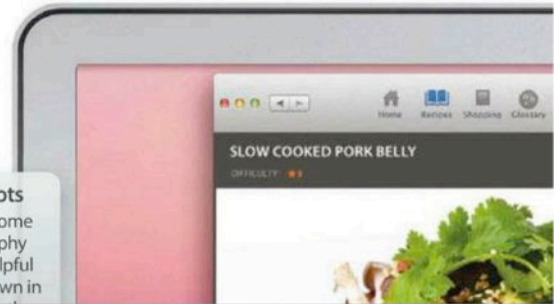
Expert video tuition to make you a master chef in no time



 With the world's tastes constantly expanding and cooking become more and more popular as a pastime, there has never been a better time to start widening your palette. This app from Futura Group offers a wide range of recipes in a neat little package, with a

Stunning shots

The app contains some amazing photography and some really helpful videos that are shown in full when you tap on them.



Spotlight

If you feel that you need to get to grips with the basics of cooking before you attempt any of these recipes, another app from Futura called **Culinary Basics** is also available.



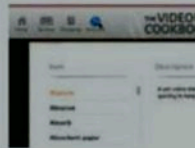
Sp

Learn terms and add favourites

If you're new to some of these techniques, or just don't know what a certain word in a recipe means, flick to the glossary to find help. And, when you've found a recipe you really love, you can quickly add it to your Favourites with a single click.

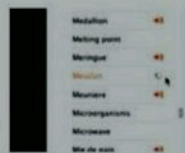
- Easy to follow

the app doesn't include many recipes that break the three-star difficulty rating. This means that while everything within the app tastes great, the meals listed won't be too hard to recreate in your own kitchen.

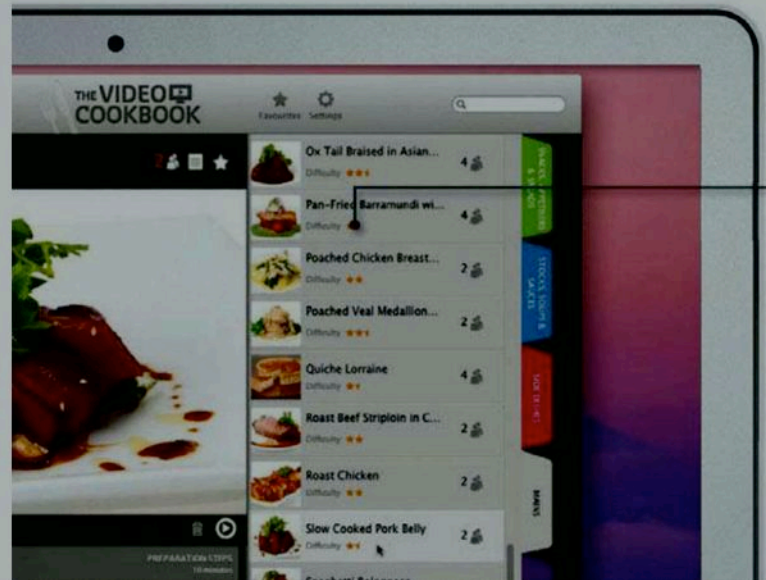


1 In the navigation bar at the top is a control that lets you quickly flick to the Glossary at any time. There are literally hundreds of entries here.

2 For some of the less well-known or difficult-to-pronounce words there are downloadable audio files. Click the speaker to hear them out loud.



3 Now flick back to your recipe and find the

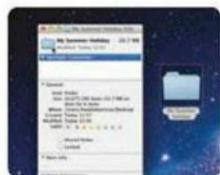


Knowledge base

app purchases
There are four sections that
locked when you first

Create bespoke icons

Customise the icons for your files, folders, apps and more



Difficulty: Beginner

Time needed: 5 minutes



Mac owners might well be fortunate enough to use one of the most beautifully designed user interfaces, but every now and then a sea of blue folders and standard document icons makes it a little hard to see exactly what file or folder you're looking for. Fortunately, following the four steps below will allow you to create your own custom icons for your files, folders and apps, enabling you to easily find what you're looking for (or disguise that hideous-looking app icon). You'll need an icon-like source image (you can either create your own or find some online) and all the tools you need are part of OS X itself. Once you've got that, it's time to get creative...

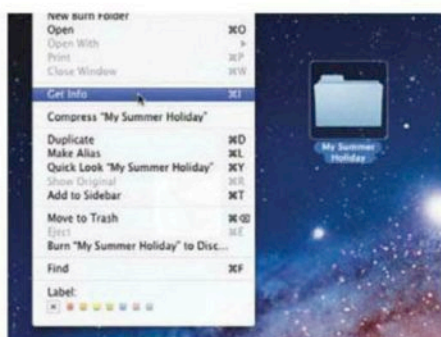


Step-by-step OS X Create custom icons with Finder



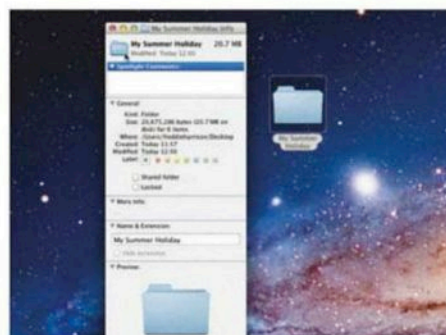
1: Find an icon

Find your replacement icon (transparent PNG files work best) and copy the image itself using the Edit menu or Command+C on your keyboard.



2: Get the info

Click on the file, folder or app whose icon you want to replace, head into the File menu and choose Get Info or hit Command+I.



3: Highlight the old

In the Get Info window that appears, click on the existing icon in the top-left corner and ensure that it's



4: Paste in the new

With the old icon highlighted, head into the Edit menu and paste in the new icon image you copied earlier on

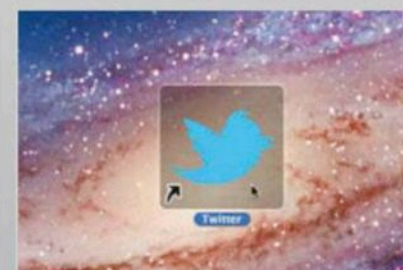
Custom icon ideas

There are many uses for your new-found custom icon creation skills, and we've listed a couple of our favourites below...



1 ID your drives

If you have multiple external hard drives plugged into your Mac, particularly out of sight, why not give them new icons with their pictures for easy identification?



2 Unsightly apps

Mac apps are generally beautifully built, but that doesn't always extend to their app icons. Amazing replacement icons are easily found on



Tame Apple's big cat

Learn to make Resume work for you

Name and maker

When you're searching for the correct app folder in the Saved App State library, it's important to note their naming format, which is `com.NameOfAppDeveloper.NameOfApp` – this should help you find the right app

What's the data?

The data inside each Saved App State folder tells Resume which windows were open, their positions and what was in them for each app when they were last quit. Deleting this effectively refreshes Resume for it

Knowledge base

Rules of the Library

It might seem like a little over-controlling to some, but Apple's decision to lock down the Library as of OS X 10.7 Lion does make a lot of sense. Your Mac's Library folder holds some of the most important data to make OS X run as smoothly as it does. Exercise extreme caution when deleting anything in there as it may well be important.

Why lock it?

Locking an app's Saved App State folder means that Resume can't make any changes to it or add any new data about what windows were open when it was closed, effectively turning its functionality off

Unlock to undo

If you have a change of heart and decide that you'd prefer it if a specific app got the full Resume treatment, then all that's required is for you to unlock its Saved App State folder once again

native login
Mac after a
while, however,
security
ne and could



age

Other login options

The Security & Privacy preference pane has a

Difficulty: Beginner

Time needed: 10 minutes

...oubtedly, these all start with disabling auto
when the machine boots up and locking your
period of inactivity. If you want to go the extra
to ensure your machine's safety, why not add a
message to that login/lock screen? It's easily do
make all the difference should you accidentally
misplace your Mac or have it stolen.
Adding your contact details
to the screen automatically
increases the chances of your
lost Mac being found.

Step-by-step

OS X Add a login security mess



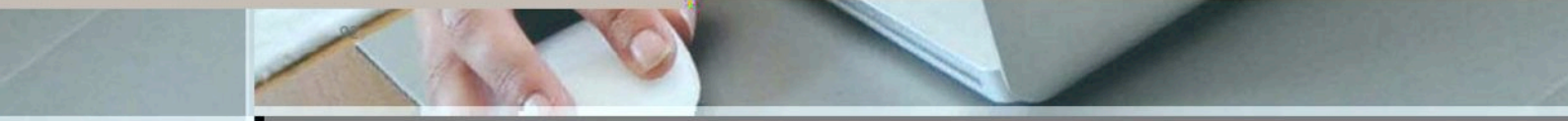
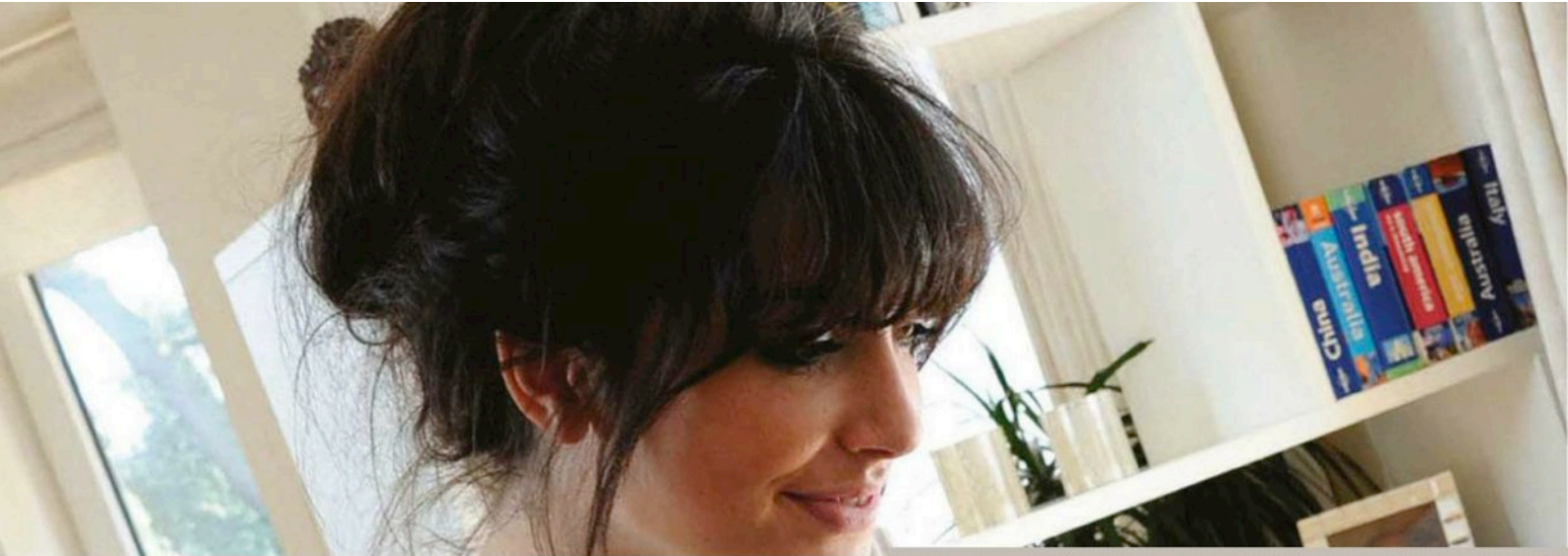
91.

11. Remove the drive

1. Turn off the Mac.
2. Open the Apple menu and click on "About This Mac".
3. Click on the "Storage" tab.
4. Click on the "Eject" button.

12. Start the replacement

1. Turn off the Mac.
2. Open the Apple menu and click on "About This Mac".
3. Click on the "Storage" tab.
4. Click on the "Eject" button.



Can you give up your
Mac for an iPad?

We pit them against
each other to find out

Do you need your Mac?

There has been a lot of talk recently about the two operating systems that Apple currently uses, iOS and OS X, coming together to form one all-powerful OS that will work with all its devices. While there are hints in both systems that they are edging ever closer together, right now they are clearly very separate beings, each with their own unique and endearing features.

When the iPad was first released, it seemed clear that it was a much less powerful device than a Mac, and that without some serious improvements, the hardware just wouldn't be able to compete with a desktop machine. That's all changed, though, and with the release of the latest iPad in February, Apple

has created a device that is surprisingly close to matching its older brother's power.

The real question, though, is do you really need your Mac? The sheer wealth of apps on offer in the iOS App Store led to Apple's famous advertising slogan: "There's an app for that." Can the iPad really do everything we need from a digital device in the modern day?

Of course, the two devices are very different, and you could easily argue that there is a place for both of them in every situation we test them in. Let's face it, though, these devices are really quite expensive, and not everyone can afford to buy them both. Thankfully, both devices are powerful enough to function alone, giving you a tough choice. Can you really survive without a Mac and go iPad-only, or are there still things that the iPad simply cannot manage that will only be possible with a more fully-featured laptop or desktop machine?

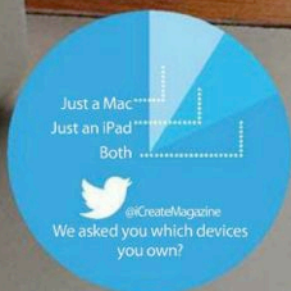
Over the next few pages we've put both Macs and iPads through a series of tests to see which can perform better in each task. The tests are based on what a user might want from their devices, with everything from taking and editing photos to watching movies included. It was important not to approach these tests by asking what one does with a Mac and trying to match it on an iPad; instead they are tasks that you would regularly turn to a digital device to complete. It's also the experience that's important here, not necessarily the apps. Of course, the apps are important, but ultimately it's a combination of the user experience, the speed of the task and the cost involved that will determine whether the iPad or the Mac can triumph when it comes to each battle.

What do people own?

We asked our Facebook and Twitter followers to tell us what devices they had, and we got a fantastic response. We expected the majority of our readers and followers to just own one device, perhaps only an iPhone or iPad, but we ended up being surprised by the result.

The vast majority of our responses were showing that people own both an iOS device and a Mac, with only a tiny number saying they are exclusive to one device. This not only says a lot about our readers' dedication to, and attraction towards Apple's fantastically designed products, it also suggests that most people prefer the choice of both an iPad and a Mac depending on the situation. However, we also asked our followers about the tasks we were carrying out. Would they prefer to

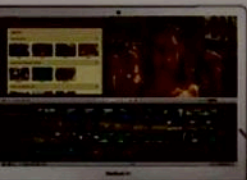
use a dedicated camera and Mac to shoot and edit video, or the all-in-one solution that is an iPad? Would they rather play a game using a keyboard and mouse, or a touchscreen? Of course, as most of our responses come from owners of both a Mac and iPad, the results aren't biased. All of these answers have been gathered and put at the end of each task. There are no right or wrong answers to our questions – but how does your personal feeling compare to the majority verdict?



Feature: Do you need your Mac?

Movies and photos

The iPhone 4S' awesome camera and iPhoto for iOS make the iPhone and iPad great shooting devices, but can they topple the Mac?



The Mac's larger screen makes it ideal for editing



Editing photos and videos on a Mac might seem easy, but it's the shooting that really catches the Mac out here. Unlike the iPad, a Mac isn't designed to take snapshots and recordings with the built-in hardware, meaning you'll need a dedicated camera or camcorder – an expensive extra cost.



The iPad's portability means you'll be able to work when inspiration hits



The biggest advantage of the iPad for shooting and editing is its built-in cameras. The five-megapixel iSight camera on the back of the tablet allows you to not only take high-quality photos, but it also shoots video in 1080p, giving you content of the highest definition possible.

From here, everything is integrated with whichever app you want to use. Editing in iPhoto gives you all your albums in one place, and open up



@iCreateMagazine

iPad & iPhone every time. iPhoto on iOS is perfect for editing, never use anything else now

Peter Gilbert @PeteGilbert2001

iMovie to see all your recorded videos. It's a seamless experience that makes quickly accessing your content a lot easier than you could wish for.

The editing process itself also offers a fantastic user experience, with touch gestures making every aspect of the interface incredibly intuitive. Whether you're retouching an image in iPhoto or

it's much more precise. The only thing that lets down editing on the Mac is that it can be a little less intuitive than many apps on an iPad manage to be, which may put some users off when it comes to more serious changes.

When it comes to movies, a Mac offers a huge amount of power; editing HD movies is seamless on the latest models, and Thunderbolt connectivity

lengthening a clip in iMovie, you can use swipes and pinches to make alterations to your projects in a flash.

While the power of the iPad might not be a match for that of a Mac, iMovie and iPhoto on the new iPad do a fantastic job of handling power-hungry editing tools. Other apps, such as Photoshop Touch, offer some even

Shooting on the iPad
The iPad might well be a little unwieldy when shooting but captures fantastic content and works as a great editing tool



Large image

You'll need one of the bigger capacity iPads to store all that video, but a separate camera for editing on a Mac



The Mac's ability to accept third-party plug-ins like Flash make it a great browsing option

Browse the web

Which device is best for your daily internet fix?



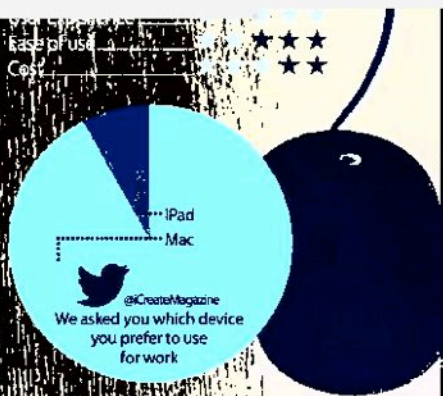
There are plenty of options when it comes to browsers on the Mac, with offerings from Google, Mozilla and Apple themselves. The biggest difference between browsing on a Mac and browsing on an iPad comes in the form of Flash support. While the majority of websites are already moving their multimedia features over to the iPad-friendly HTML5, many do not yet offer the service, meaning the Mac is the only place you'll be able to view them.

The multi-touch gestures available go beyond what is on offer on the iPad, too, with swipes left and right enabling you to move forward and backward between pages. It's a neat interface with plenty of adaptability, and thanks to the full-screen mode in most Mac browsers, there is plenty of screen space for the best viewing experience. The Ethernet port on most Macs will also ensure the very fastest speeds for browsing and downloading – something the iPad cannot match.



iPad every time. I actually deliberately ignore

can't compete with the Mac. iWork features some useful iCloud syncing and Office is notably absent. Rumours are an Office app will launch soon for the iPad. That said, iWork's touchscreen is a nice user-interface. Sometimes it can't handle commands, and the limitations in the apps, from which you have a choice of several, (I'm not sure how you could be hard on your primary purpose for the device) is an external Bluetooth keyboard is a handy option. The apps are well designed and the interface is



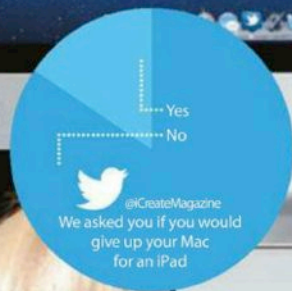
supported in full, Apple's own iWork suite, and third-party efforts such as LibreOffice offering valid alternatives.

There's plenty of power in these apps, with word processing, spreadsheets and presentations all as simple to make as you might expect. For those who need even more power, though, these apps support complex features such as pivot tables and other advanced formatting options in spreadsheets. The larger screens available on Macs also allow a multitude of toolbars to be displayed, giving you quick access to the tools you will need consistently, and the ability to customise toolbars to your liking is a real bonus. In terms of hardware, the keyboard and mouse combination allows you to quickly navigate around your documents and other work files quickly and easily, with a physical keyboard allowing for fast touch-typing with ease.

In terms of apps, the is present and correct, a features, but Microsoft currently circulating the iPad, but at the present you can work with your apps are excellent, with be difficult to find certain some areas (such as pages of two) make it slightly to recommend an iPad was work, simply because needed if typing for all themselves are also in

Printing from an iPad





Final verdict

This has never been a more difficult problem thanks to the power and portability of the new iPad. If the question is whether or not you can totally replace your Mac with an iPad, there are some situations for which a Mac is still incredibly useful. Apps like Photoshop Touch do a great job when editing on the tablet, but for serious work on photos, or for those wanting to create music or movies, the answer is that you simply cannot do better than a Mac. Until the iPad can offer even more power and storage, the Mac's sheer adaptability makes it a much better place for those wanting real power to support their creativity.

However, if the question is 'Mac or iPad?' the answer is much more complex. It's all about what the user wants; both machines offer similar experiences, but go about them in completely different ways. The iPad is fantastic for kids; even toddlers can pick up and use an iPad in just a few minutes. That said, students and professionals that need a machine for work will be much more comfortable with the adaptability and hardware keyboard on a Mac. However, for those who just want a place to quickly browse the web, play a few games and watch movies using headphones, the iPad is incredible. It might not be able to replace a Mac for the truly powerful applications right now, but the iPad is slowly becoming so much more than a second machine, and depending on what Apple do with the next iPad and iOS 6, the gap could be even smaller this time next year.



I have Mac, iPhone and iPad and they all have their

birthday party, but great photos to of extra widgets creating the perfect

Difficulty: Intermediate
Time needed: 20 minutes

and family via iCloud. In the example below, we've documented a bit you could use any event. All that really matters is that you have some work with. After you've got your images, as well as an idea of the kind you'd like to add, then you'll be set to follow our nine-step guide to c



Want to do more with your favourite photos before you share them? Head over to page 108 for our amazing six-page Photoshop Touch for iPad guide for some inspiration.

iPhoto on your iPad

Use your iPad to get creative...

• Different sizes

Ensuring your photos are all different sizes makes for a far more interesting photo journal. It's also worth knowing that tapping on any photo will display it in full-screen mode for more detailed viewing



• Widgets everywhere

There are eleven different page elements or widgets that you can add to your journal to make it more interesting. A solid combination of text and pictures should elevate it way beyond a simple photo gallery

• Sunny side up

It might not be worth remembering if your

it be considered 'big' enough for mainstream news. Using some simple editing steps and a selection of media from your iPad it's possible to very quickly make a realistic-looking news bulletin and share it with the world.

The media library connects with your iPad Camera Roll and music library to offer all of the media available. From here you can browse and add photos, videos and/or audio to enhance your story

news

sional bulletin

up the Project can browse the you'd like to use parameters

• Add some (con)text

With a theme selected you can simply tap on a video clip in order to open up the title options. You can elect to place the text at the beginning, end or throughout your clip



Making the

Produce a profes

• Theme options

Touching the options icon brings up the Settings window. From here you can browse the available themes, choose the one you like, and adjust a number of basic pa

• Knowledge base

Exporting options

From the Project menu, there are plenty of options to export your video to your iPad's Camera Roll or share it online via a selection of social and video services. All of the

My Songs

This icon takes you to the archive of all your created songs, and it is also from here where you can quickly export tracks to a range of destinations, including iTunes and YouTube

Levels

The switch-like icon at the top of the screen is your levels bar, where the volume of the track is shown in colour. The dial within the bar can be moved to increase or decrease the volume

Track layers

Within each of your songs you can have multiple layers of music, with each instrument having its own. These green tracks can be edited with two taps, enabling you to delete, split and loop them

Instruments

Tapping this icon presents you with the list of instruments available within GarageBand. Those with a gear cog bordering them are the Smart Instruments, and come with plenty of creative help

Knowledge base**Instrument type**

It is important when recording your movie score to get the tone right so that it suits the pictures it will appear alongside. Within each instrument's menu you can select a type, for example, the Smart Strings menu gives you the choice of Modern, Cinematic or even Romantic tones. Have a listen to each and see which suits you the best.



Arrange a movie score on your iPad

Take advantage of GarageBand's Smart Strings to create a Hollywood blockbuster-style arrangement



Difficulty: Beginner

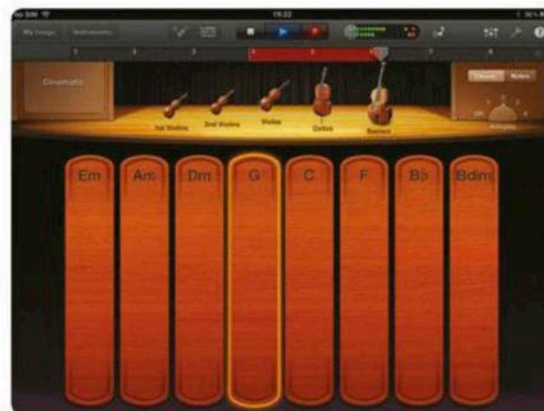
Time needed: 30 minutes



GarageBand is a tool to be played with and experimented with by anyone, regardless of musical ability. This is clear from the way the app is set up and the inclusion of the Smart Instruments. While the facilities are there for real musicians to be able to work while on the move, the help is there to make even the most musically challenged feel like they can shape a number one hit.

Creating a movie score is something everyone should try, especially if you have some home footage that you think would benefit from an epic or cinematic sound bed. The beauty of the trial and error nature of GarageBand is easy to see in a process like this.

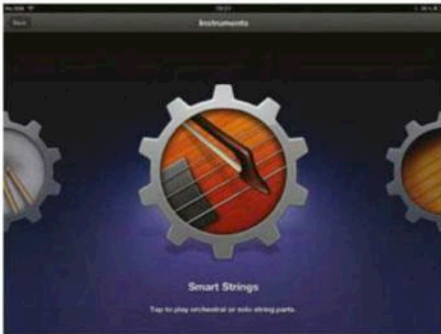
If you're feeling confident you can have a go without using facilities like Autoplay, which create a tune or melody for you. Smart Strings puts an orchestra at your disposal – a very effective tool if used correctly. You can then add additional layers from instruments like the Grand Piano or even a drum kit if you feel the need to, before easily exporting your song to iTunes, and then onto your video.





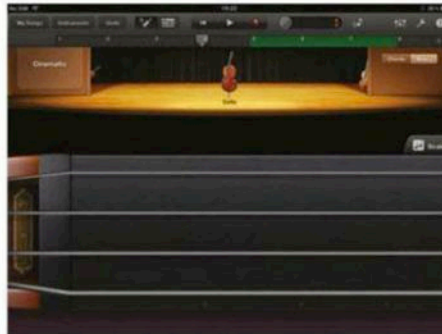
For those with a less musically capable hand, the Autoplay feature is very helpful. It allows you to focus on editing and tweaking to get the outcome you're after.

Step-by-step GarageBand Movie soundtracks for your own videos



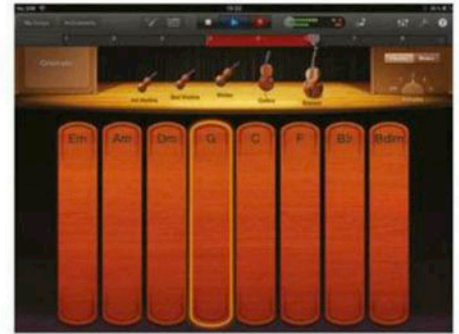
1: Smart Strings

Start off by heading to the Smart Strings section. You can alter the string setup and instruments used by selecting from the templates in the box, or tap an instrument to remove it from the line-up.



2: Record a sound bed

Once you've had some interaction with the various chords, you can record the first layer of your score. If you're happy, you can do this yourself without any help by tapping and pulling along the chords.



3: Autoplay

The other option is to use the Autoplay feature, which can be accessed via the dial on the right of the screen. Choose a chord and then move through the numbers to find a tune you like.



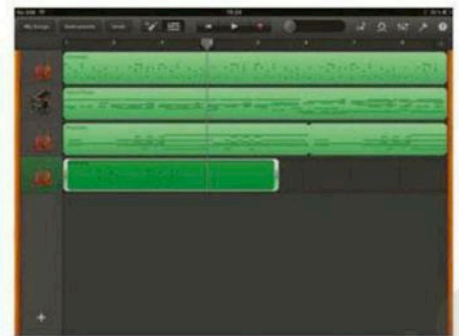
4: Sense of drama

It wouldn't be a movie score without a dramatic piano interlude, so tap the Instruments icon and select either the Keyboard or Smart Keyboard. For an authentic sound, choose the Grand Piano.



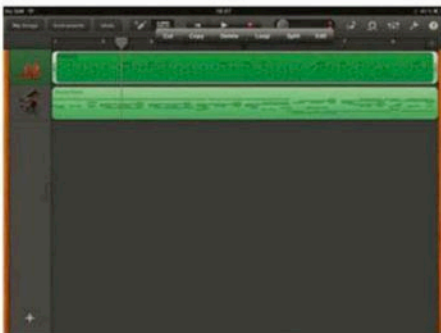
5: Record

If you've chosen to use the Smart Keyboard you have the chance to select two chords to use in the Autoplay sequence. Use the playback feature at the top of the screen to find a combination that works.



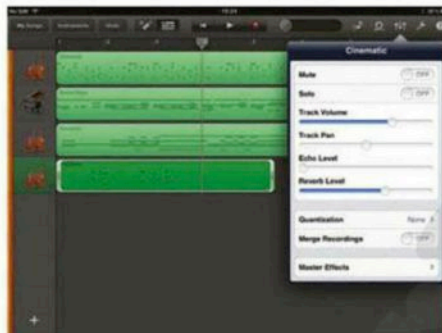
6: Track view

Having created your first two layers, you can now head to the Track View. Tap the bar icon near the playback options to move to this screen. Here you can start to reshape your track as you need to.



7: Loop recording

If you want to extend a layer of your track, tap it once to select it, and again to open a menu. Tap the Loop icon and this layer will play on repeat. The curved arrow symbol on the layer will indicate this.



8: Tweaks and extras

In the narrow left-hand column you'll find a plus sign that enables you to add additional layers to a track. Use the settings icon to alter tempo, fade and even the key of the track.



9: Export

Once you're happy you can export it by going to My Songs, tapping Edit and selecting the relevant song and then the Share icon. This will give you a list of potential destinations for your new movie score.

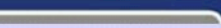
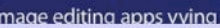
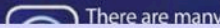


Adobe Photoshop Touch

Adobe Photoshop Touch

Import, crop, resize and share

Use the Photoshop Touch app to make simple edits to your images and then share them via Facebook



There are many image editing apps vying for a

of Adobe's Photoshop Touch app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play. The app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play. The app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play.

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The app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play. The app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play. The app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play.



4. Crop the image

Click on the 'Crop' icon in the top right corner. The app will show a crop box over the image.



5. Adjust the crop

Click on the 'Crop' icon in the top right corner. The app will show a crop box over the image.



6. Share the image

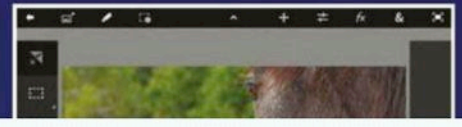
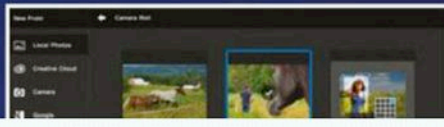
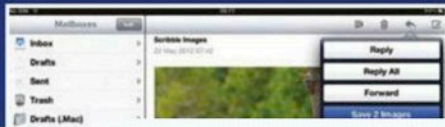
Click on the 'Share' icon in the top right corner. The app will show a share sheet with various sharing options.



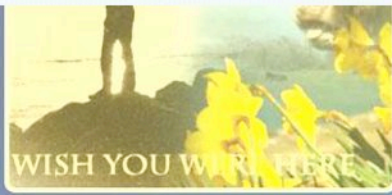
When editing using brush-based tools it can be handy to undo the last few strokes if you make a mistake. To do so, tap on the Undo icon in the bottom-left of the interface.

Step-by-step

Adobe Photoshop Touch Master the Scribble Selection tool



your iPad's
most commonly
used you can use
together in
on various layers
mask parts of a
photo montage
ts.



postcard



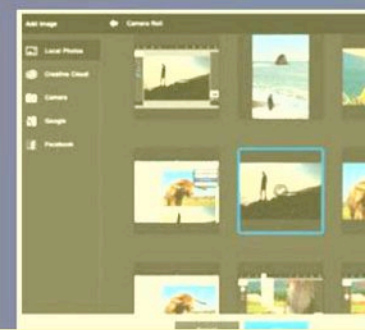
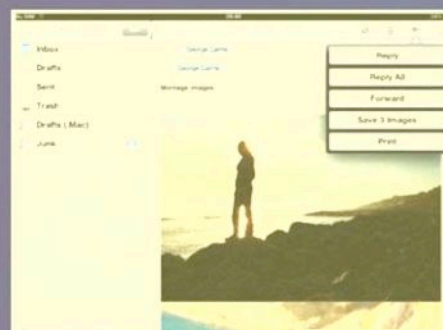
Difficulty: Intermediate

Time needed: 20 minutes

ways to get your favourite holiday photos in
Photoshop Touch app, even when you're still away from home, mo
a Camera Connection Kit. Once your favourite shots are on your iP
Photoshop Touch's powerful layer-based tools to composite them
creative ways. We'll show you how to move and transform images
to create an attractive composition. We'll also demonstrate how to
layer so that it blends with content on the layers below, creating a
in which the whole is most certainly greater than the sum of its pa

Step-by-step

Adobe Photoshop Touch Create a stunning p



your iPad's
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used you can use
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on various layers
mask parts of a
photo montage
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your iPad's
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together in
on various layers
mask parts of a
photo montage
ts.



Tap on a layer's stack icon to access extra layer-related tools like reducing the selected layer's opacity or changing its blending mode.

Get creative on your iPad

Make the most of your special memories

Fabulous fades

The Add Fade command enables you to add and customise masks to gently mix one layer's content with another's and create a photo montage effect

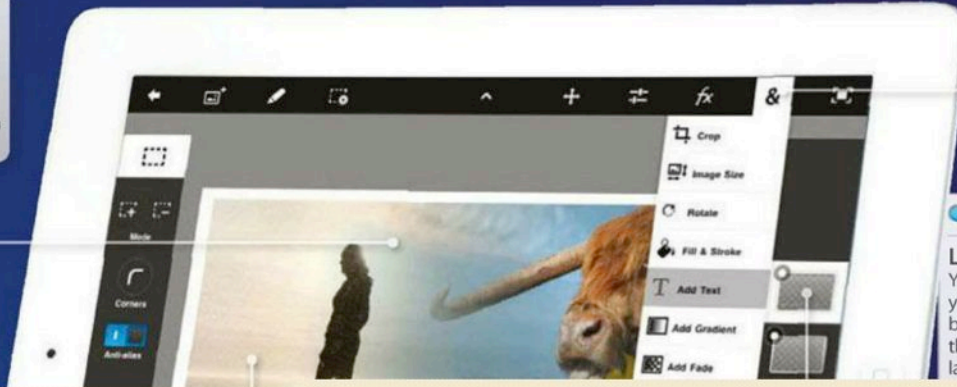
The '&' menu

This main menu gave us sub-commands that filled our rectangular selection marquee with a white border, as well as whipping up some text for our personalised postcard design

Knowledge base

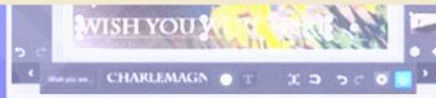
Layer stacks

You can experiment with your montage's layout by changing the order of the layers. Simply tap on a layer's thumbnail to select



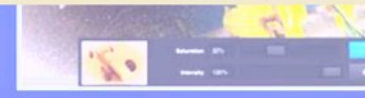
8: Create a border

Create an empty layer. Use the Rectangular tool to border the frame's edge. Tap the Select menu at the top and choose Inverse. Tap the '&' menu and choose Fill & Stroke. Fill the selection with white.



9: Add text

Tap the '&' menu and Add Text. Type a message into the text field in the Options bar. Use the Transform control handles to scale and position the text. Choose a suitable colour and font. Tap the tick.



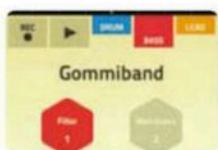
7: Add effects

Tap on the girl's layer in the Layer palette, go to Photo. Tap on the Old Sepia thumbnail. Tap on the girl's layer in the Layer palette, go to Photo. Tap on the Old Sepia thumbnail. Tap on the girl's layer in the Layer palette, go to Photo. Tap on the Old Sepia thumbnail. Tap on the girl's layer in the Layer palette, go to Photo. Tap on the Old Sepia thumbnail.



Compose amazing mobile music with Figure

Powered by desktop app Reason, this mobile studio marries studio quality audio with hand-held fun



Difficulty: Beginner
Time needed: 20 minutes

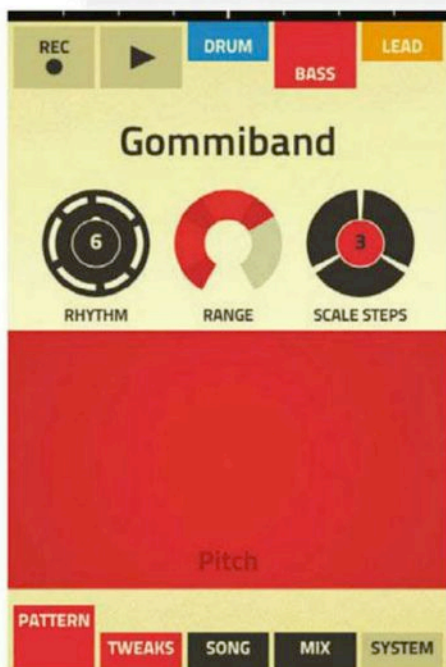


Despite various attempts from all manner of developers, there's little chance that anyone is really going to stop using 'real' computers to create professional music, so it should come as no surprise that professional music powerhouse, Propellerhead, has made fun the main focus of its mobile offering. Of course, being the company that it is, responsible for one of the world's best-loved music making apps, Reason, it has not omitted any quality whatsoever, it just hasn't created this app under the pretence that it will replace the tool that most dance music producers swear by.

The result is an app that contains astonishing audio but that has wrapped it up in an interface that invites exploration in the most playful of ways. There's no real need to worry about the 'rules' of music here, instead, feel your way around the sounds and create bouncing beats that you can really get into.

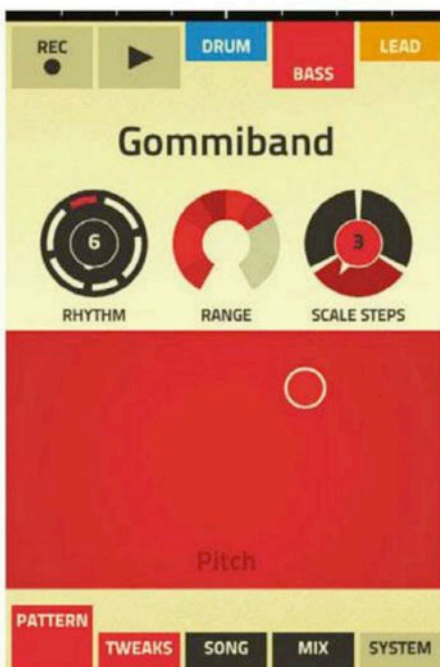
If you do manage to create something that warrants further exploration or you just want to play it again to friends, you can record in-app. Here we'll take you through creating your first jam and how to get different sounds from the synths available. The idea is that you can quickly pick a sound, manipulate it and record all the elements you need before you've got to the cashier in the supermarket.

Step-by-step Figure Make music on the go



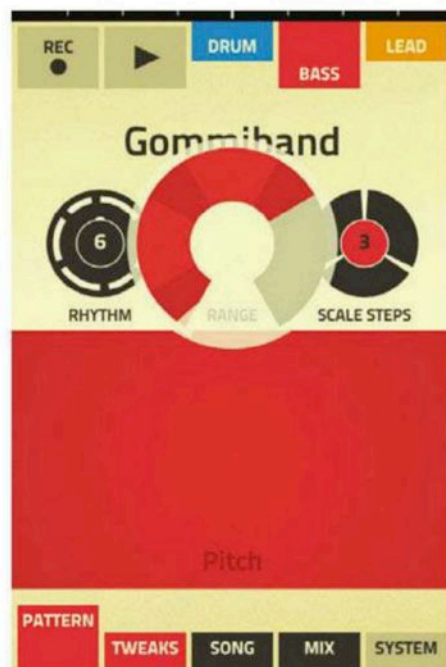
1: Epic bass

Select the instrument type at the top of the UI. There are three to choose from and we have opted for Bass. You can flick between these at any time.



2: Finger time

Now simply run your finger across the red pad at the bottom of the interface. As your finger moves direction it changes the rhythm of the tune.



3: Top taps

You can change the settings of the synth you are playing by tapping on the dials above the pad. These will expand under your finger and let you alter values.



If you like this app and fancy giving something a little more comprehensive a try, why not download GarageBand for iPad or go to www.propellerheads.se to look at Reason.

Superstar DJs...

... Here we go!

Mix it up

The Mix settings are really simple and let you...

atch Key



SCALE STEPS

REVERSE

ERASE MODE



RHYTHM



RANGE



SCALE STEPS

Pitch

PATTERN

TWEAKS

SONG

MIX

SYSTEM

6: Record the beat

Tap the Record button at the top and then play the instrument. Change to another instrument and keep playing to build up a track. It's that simple.

Gommiband



RHYTHM



RANGE



4

Pitch

PATTERN

TWEAKS

SONG

MIX

SYSTEM

4: Real change

To increase the range of the tune being played, alter the Scale Steps on the right. The higher the value the more notes that will be played.

Floater

GI



RHYTHM



RANGE

Pitch

PATTERN

TWEAKS

SONG

MIX

5: Love lead, change synth

To play another instrument just tap on the left and right. There are loads to choose from.



N.O.V.A. 3 - Near Orbit Vanguard Alliance

A thrill-a-minute shooter that excels on iPad

Developer
• Gameloft

Compatibility
• iPad/iPhone

£4.99 / \$6.99



N.O.V.A. 3 is the third in the series and combines the best bits from console heavyweights Halo,

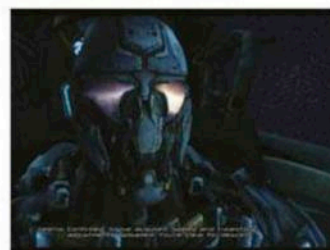
Crysis and Call of Duty. While the first game was considered to take aspects from similar games, it has now developed its own style and a dedicated fan base. This new instalment opens with you locked and loaded as Kal Wardin with an array of weapons at your disposal. As opposed to other games where you have to build up your arsenal over the levels, this instant action adds immediate interest and, of course, means that you can really toast the bad guys straight from the off.

Of course visual improvements are par for the course, especially given the need to fill all of those pixels on the

new iPad and its wonderful Retina display. In comparison to the original game, N.O.V.A. 3 is light years ahead in so many ways. Shadows, textures and the depth of lighting and reflections make for a truly immersive experience. The visual experience is so good that at times you may lift up your iPad and peer around the back of it to make sure it is still an iPad. It's stunning to say the least.

The controls are much the same as they always have been, which means that unfortunately they are limited by the iPad's touch interface. It's a shame really as the visual elements lull you into a false sense of security, and when you don't get console-quality controls you can become frustrated.

If you can approach this game with a more casual attitude you'll have much more fun. When the buzz of the campaign begins to ebb you can rekindle your love for this format with 12-player online battles that will teach you to



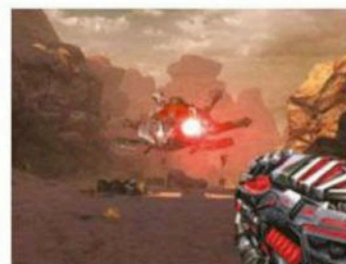
"Shadows, textures and the depth of lighting and reflections make for a truly immersive experience"

act fast or find yourself being shot in the back and resurrected every five seconds or so. The furious gameplay in this mode is hard to match and local games over a Wi-Fi network are even more competitive.

In terms of value for money you really do come out as a winner with this title. You can eke about five hours out of the campaign and the

multiplayer fun will last as long as you can manage having your nerves shredded repeatedly. This is a great new version of a franchise that proves it has plenty of life left – it could even squeeze a couple of new instalments out. Well worth a buy if you enjoy the thrills of a first person shooter.

Overall Rating ★★★★★



The levels get even better as you progress through the game



This menu will help you get your bearings and stick to objectives



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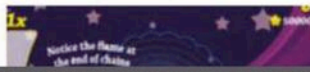


Ka-Bloom £0.69 / \$0.99
Compatibility • iPad/iPhone Developer • BBC Worldwide



If you want to get bored very quickly then download this app. It is

Create connected chains using your finger to feed the star



Top five apps for film-inspired fun

Hambo Begins HD **Free**

Iron Man 2 for iPad

£2.99 / \$4.99

Developer • Marvel



Who wouldn't want to be the legendary Tony Stark? While we wait for an Avengers app to appear (developers please form an orderly queue), let's don that magical suit and fly around blowing stuff up. Great fun!

Batman Arkham City Lockdown

£3.99 / \$5.99

Developer • Warner Bros



Not quite as cool as Tony Stark but way more brutal. Palm activated punches are one thing, batarangos are a completely different animal. Also, Rachel Dawes is better than Mary Sue.

often impossible to view where the puck is, this one-on-one game is addictive simplicity at its brilliant best. Frustrate yourself to the point of violence as you attempt to take on the tricky transportation medium of ice and the equally tough skill of trying to score into a tiny, guarded goal. Then pit yourself against opposition that becomes steadily tougher.

This game is stunning fun and a classic time waster for both your



iPhone and iPad. Great graphics, sound gameplay and fun characters combine to provide great value for money. What are you waiting for? Get downloading!

Overall Rating ★★★★★



Fun characters make you want to play more and more



153

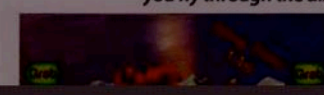
SummitX Snowboarding HD £0.69 / \$0.99

Compatibility • iPad/iPhone

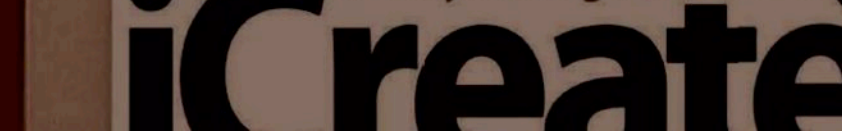
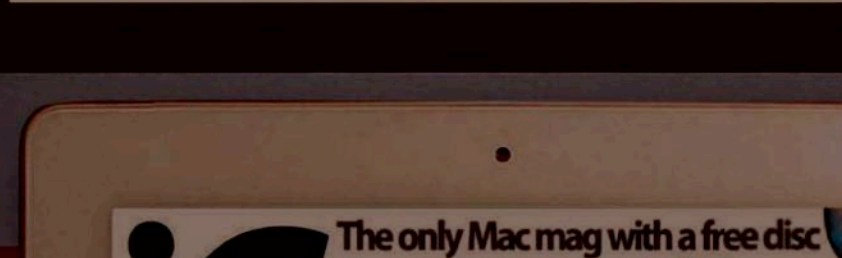
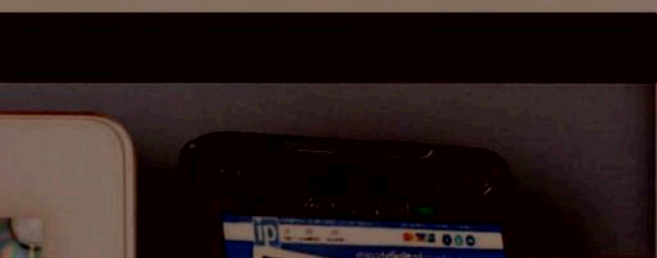
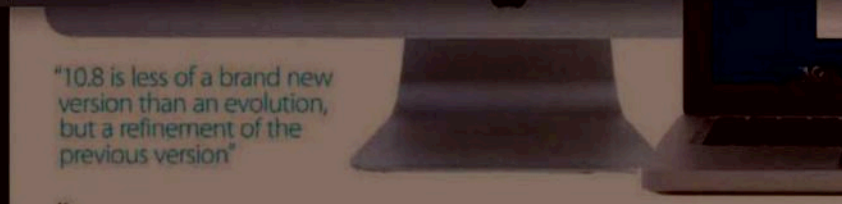
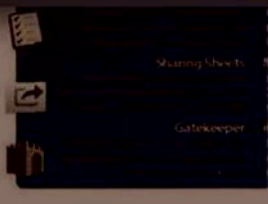
Developer • Com2us USA



With a harder than anticipated control system requiring both of your



Violently tap your screen as you fly through the air





"This drive revels in simplicity: plug it in and you're immediately ready to go"

Elgato Thunderbolt SSD £349.65/\$429.95

Is this the ultimate high-speed portable drive for your Mac?

Key features

- Single Thunderbolt port
- 120GB or 240GB SSD
- Up to 270MBps transfer

Learn more...

• www.elgato.com

Available from...

• www.elgato.com

If you like this...
You might also like...

Elgato Thunderbolt Cable
£49.95/\$59.95

It's shorter and more expensive than Apple's own Thunderbolt cable, but if you're colour conscious it will match the dark drive. Worth it? Probably not.



While this certainly wasn't the first external Thunderbolt drive on the market, it is the only one that utilises an SSD using a single Thunderbolt port. This drive revels in simplicity: plug it in and you're immediately ready to go with no extra setup.

The single Thunderbolt port is a little limiting, as it means the drive has to sit at the end of any daisy-chain of other devices that you're using while you work. Most other Thunderbolt-enabled devices use two ports to keep the chain going, but Elgato instead opted for a more portable drive. Adding an extra port would have required an external power supply to the drive, dropping the portable nature of the SSD and forcing users to hook up extra wires. And we actually think that was a great decision – this is a drive designed to quickly transfer large files between computers, not as a backup for your workflow. While it might cause a few problems for some, the pick-up-and-go nature of the SSD is a massive plus-point.

Of course, the other huge bonus is the speed. Unlike most drives that use USB or FireWire 800, Thunderbolt cables can push the transfer speeds close to 10GBps.

Obviously this is just a theoretical speed, and you will always be limited by the read and write speeds of the disks that you are using. Thankfully, the SSD inside this drive runs as fast as you might expect – in our tests we got write speeds of up to 121MBps when copying an 18GB folder of mixed files, and read speeds of 190MBps for the same size folder. In our AJA system test we got read and write speeds of 2679MBps and 256MBps, respectively. Compared to other external drives we've tested this is incredible, of course, and when it comes to Thunderbolt drives it might not be the fastest in every category but it's certainly equal or better in every test.

The price, however, is something of a sticking point. The 120GB model is available for around £350/\$430, and while the drive offers the highest speeds from any portable device we've reviewed, the cost per GB is also one of the highest we've ever seen at £2.92/\$3.58. Obviously this is so high because of the SSD, which does admittedly remove the chance of data loss from any accidental bumps and knocks while offering high-speed transfer rates, but sadly the price point might be where this drive really falls down.

Questions answered

Because we get to play with stuff before you do...

"Can I use this drive without a Thunderbolt port?"

Put simply, no. FireWire 800 and USB ports have been left off to save space, keep the price down and ensure that a power supply wasn't essential, so a Thunderbolt cable is your only option.

Killer feature

Portability

The single Thunderbolt port means this drive can draw all the necessary power from your Mac. Plus thanks to its SSD there's no danger of losing data as a result of knocks either.

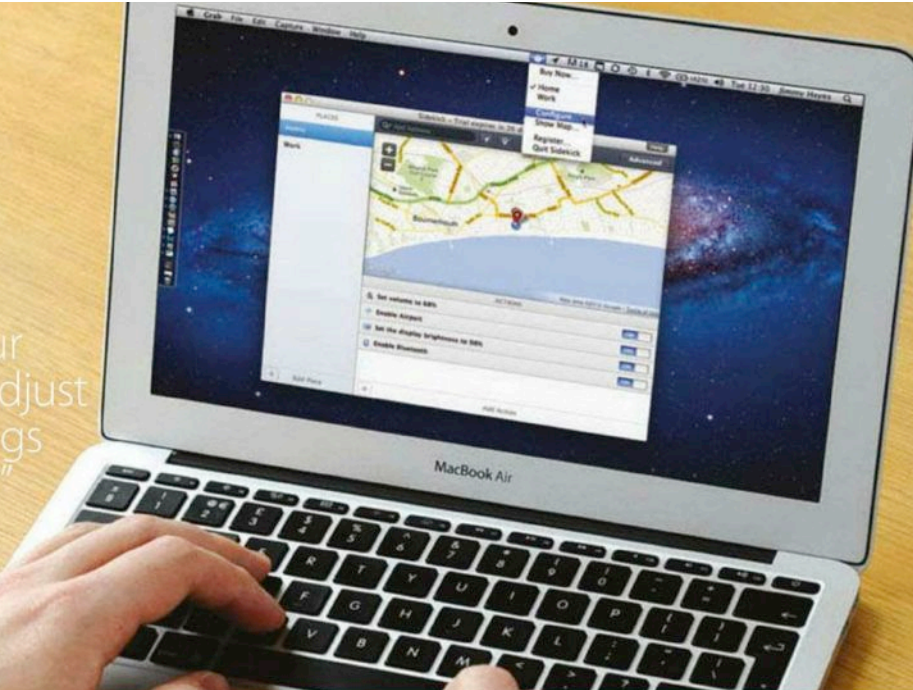
Buy now?

Pros A small, light and portable way to get high-speed storage

Cons The single port will limit your chains, and it's extremely costly



"Why not use Sidekick to determine your location and adjust all those settings automatically?"



MacBook to fulfil a now that each and location you have elements in order to y. At the office there o, volume levels i printers that are vng to manually gs for each situation ace, why not use our location and automatically? ered this app we really save any time red the possibilities e. Provided you of internet so your ined, then you

g servers, what's also really useful is the ability to instantly capture your settings. So once you are in a location that has specific settings and you have already taken the time to perfect them, just hit the Capture Settings button and they will be memorised according to location.

At the time of writing there are also eleven different plug-ins you can install that will control things like Microsoft Outlook or the instant messenger Adium among others. These extend the uses you'll get from Sidekick making some of your heavily-used apps location-aware too. With more support and even more plug-ins this app could become a perfect companion for on-the-go MacBook owners. We found it highly customisable, fun to explore and like all good software – it just works.

location or saving up the settings in a window to create a new action.

Killer feature Customisation

The ability to fine tune settings makes this a great app to travel with. It means you won't get caught out playing YouTube videos too loud!

Buy now?

Pros A simple app that is very well executed and very easy to use

Cons There is a specific need involved in suitability for this app which may not apply to you



Available from...
• www.oomphalot.com/sidekick

If you like this...

You might also like...

Lights Out £2.99/\$4.99

If you like smart utilities that can quickly add extra functionality to your Mac then this economical app can quickly add extras to hot corners. Well worth a look!



If you need your Mac number of roles you'll every time you change to reconfigure certain use it to its best capacity are servers to connect that are acceptable and needed. Rather than h change all of the settin as you arrive in each pl Sidekick to determine adjust all those setting When we first discov weren't sure if it would but the more we expl the more sense it mad connect to some kind location can be determ

Altec Lansing inAir 5000 £429.99/\$499.95

Besides looking utterly stunning, can this speaker deliver on the promise of powerful but crystal-clear wireless sound?

Key features

- AirPlay enabled
- Companion app
- Remote control

Learn more...

- www.alteclansing.com

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People harbouring any doubts over the benefits of Apple's AirPlay should try this speaker, as they will be dispelled within seconds of using the inAir 5000. Not only does it look incredibly cool but it's so easy to operate that users will quickly find themselves giving it the same look of adoration usually reserved for their Macs, iPads and iPhones. Having taken it out of the box, plugged it into the mains and attached an Ethernet cable into the b

the grilles too. The top and middle of the frequency scale are handled with aplomb by neodymium tweeters and Kevlar mid-range drivers, while a long-throw subwoofer fires downwards delivering powerful low-range audio which will cause most to turn their heads.

The speaker's simplicity is highlighted by the lack of buttons on both the unit and the remote control. You only really need to control the device sending the signal,

Questions answered

Because we get to play with stuff before you do...

"Having AirPlay is great for my Apple devices, but what about my TV or a DAB radio – how can I use them?"

There is a mini-jack auxiliary input on the side of the inAir 5000 along with a headphone jack and volume controls so you can plug in an external source if need be.

"Without a dock, I'm

Key feature

Headline system

1. 10.1" LCD screen
2. 10.1" LCD screen
3. 10.1" LCD screen
4. 10.1" LCD screen
5. 10.1" LCD screen
6. 10.1" LCD screen
7. 10.1" LCD screen
8. 10.1" LCD screen
9. 10.1" LCD screen
10. 10.1" LCD screen

Key feature

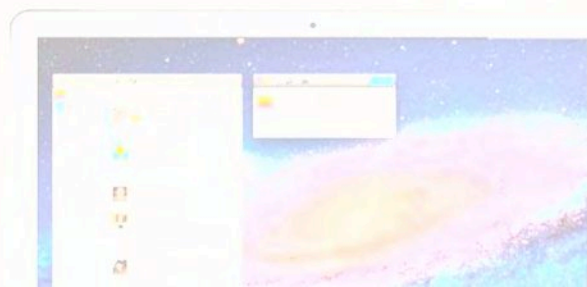
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9. 10.1" LCD screen
10. 10.1" LCD screen



Buy now?

"If you were to cross a Mac mini and an Apple TV, the outcome would end up looking like this"



Questions answered

Because we get to play with stuff before you do...

"Is this drive still worth me buying if my Mac doesn't support USB 3.0?"

Chances are, unless you're using your Thunderbolt connection right now to interface with an external hard drive, you're already using a drive that has USB 2.0 speeds. It's the same deal with this Freecom drive (USB 3.0 connections are backwards compatible), so there's no reason to discount it on the basis that your Mac isn't USB 3.0 compatible.

"Does this drive require an external power source or is it happy to run off of USB?"

As a rule of thumb any drive that's 1TB or larger usually needs its own power source and this drive is no exception. As you'd expect this is included in the box.

Freecom Hard Drive Sq £169/\$TBA

How does Freecom's 2TB offering square up to the competition?

Key features

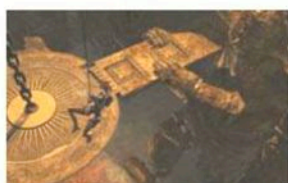
- 1TB/2TB/3TB capacities
- USB 3.0 compatible
- Aluminium enclosure

Freecom's Mobile Drive Sq may have been around for some time, but its older, larger brother – the Freecom Hard Drive Sq – is the new kid on the block, and it packs a punch. Set in click

speed. If you're lucky enough to own a Mac with a PCI Express port, however, you can buy a USB 3.0 controller to fit in there and really speed things up.

The Hard Drive Sq isn't just a one-trick

Mac App Store



Mexico and a few more mythical locations. *Underworld* has some great graphical moments, with underwater ruins and huge temples that look fantastic if you take a moment to explore them. It's all incredibly smooth, with fantastic animations and some impressive cut-scenes.

The gameplay is classic *Tomb Raider* too, with lots of jumping around platforms, or solving puzzles to open your path. These puzzles can be quite taxing, and solving them offers a real sense of achievement, but if you do ever get stuck there is a useful help system in Lara's PDA that should give

out what happened to her mother, who disappeared several years ago. The family element adds a nice twist on the usual plot.

It controls well, even with a keyboard and mouse. As ever with ported console titles, the sheer number of commands on offer means there are lots of keys to remember, but everything is dealt with well and Lara does what you tell her to for the most part. There are a few issues within the game with the camera, which often puts itself in incredibly awkward positions, but the mouse controls the viewing angle so a quick drag will fix that immediately.

both to advance. She'll sometimes run into invisible walls too, which is a little frustrating.

"What's all this about mythical locations?"

The series has always had a mythical element, and in the latest iteration Lara is trying to save her long-lost mother from the Norse realm of the dead.

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